



Ge  
979.401  
Sa63h  
1729149

M. L.

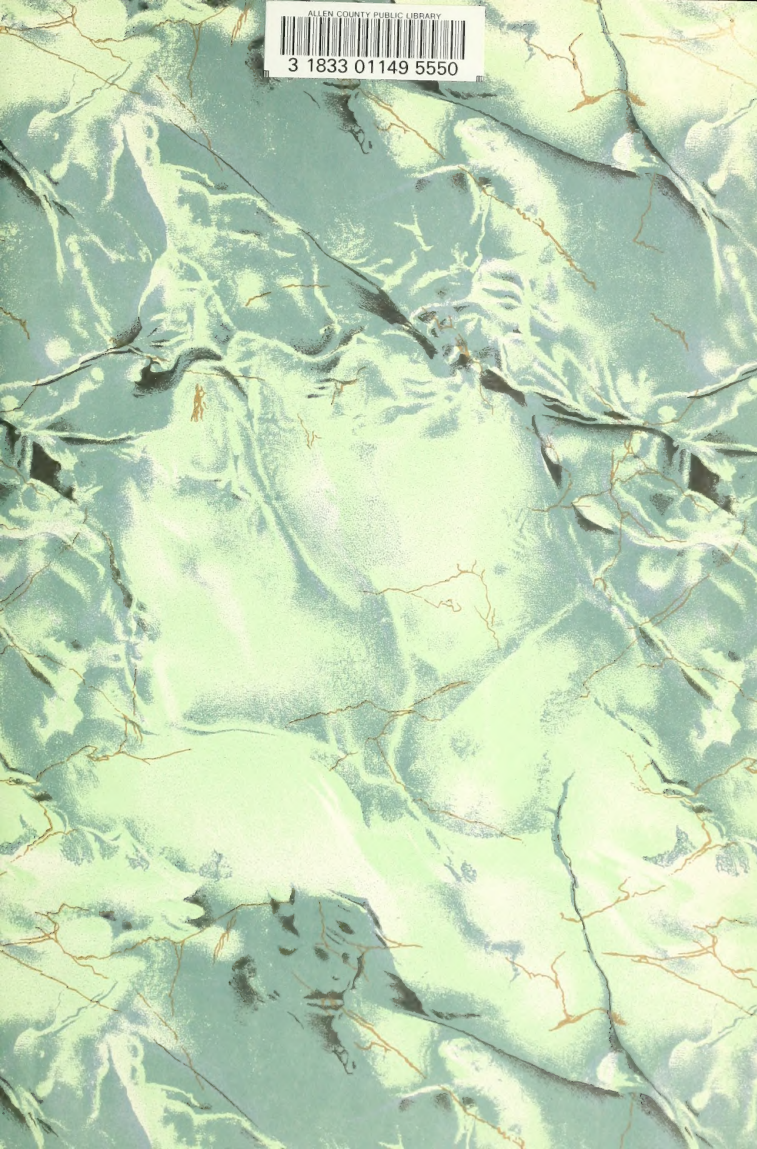
REYNOLDS HISTORICAL  
GENEALOGY COLLECTION



ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01149 5550



















HISTORY OF  
San Luis Obispo County  
and Environs

CALIFORNIA

WITH

*Biographical Sketches*

OF

*The Leading Men and Women of the County and Environs  
Who have been Identified with the Growth and  
Development of the Section from the  
Early Days to the Present*



HISTORY BY

MRS. ANNIE L. MORRISON AND JOHN H. HAYDON

ILLUSTRATED

COMPLETE IN ONE VOLUME

HISTORIC RECORD COMPANY

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

1917





# CONTENTS—HISTORICAL

## HISTORY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

By Mrs. Annie L. Morrison

PAGE

### INTRODUCTION ..... 17

"MEMORIES GREEN," by Horace Annesley Vachell, noted English novelist and dramatist—Beginning of San Luis Obispo County—Cabrillo in 1542 names Morro Rock, visits the bays, and names Piedra Blanca—Beauty of the natural scenery—Topography of the county.

### CHAPTER I

#### THE SPANISH QUEST FOR "EL DORADO" ..... 21

How our state got its name—Spanish formalities in taking possession of the state—Cabrillo, his voyage to Cape Mendocino; his death and burial place—Indians in San Luis Obispo County—Piedra Pintada, or Painted Rock, an ancient temple of sun worship on the Carissa plains.

### CHAPTER II

#### THE FOUNDING OF THE MISSIONS ..... 24

The Jesuits expelled from Spain's dominions by order of Charles the Third, of Spain—The Franciscans establish missions in Alta California—Don Gaspar de Portola and Fathers Junipero Serra and Francisco Palou, and the two expeditions, by land and by sea—The founding of the San Diego Mission—Translation of Father Juan Crespi's diary describing Portola's journey through San Luis Obispo County—Manner of founding a mission—Construction of the missions—Founding of Mission San Luis de Tolosa—Wealth of the mission—Later history of the mission—San Miguel Mission—Relics of mission days—Origin of the introduction of the tiled roofs.

### CHAPTER III

#### CALIFORNIA DURING THE MEXICAN REVOLT ..... 33

Mexico a dependency of Spain from the conquest of Cortez—Father Hidalgo, and the revolt of 1810—Mexican independence acknowledged, and a republican form of government adopted—Execution of Iturbide—The Indians of the missions inaugurate a little civil service reform of their own—The Indian revolt at Santa Ynez—California declares her independence of Spain and her allegiance to Mexico—The beginning of the end of ecclesiastical rule—The act of secularization—The end of mission rule.

### CHAPTER IV

#### THE AMERICAN CONQUEST ..... 36

The early Californians—Their speech and manner of life—Captain John Wilson—Prominent families of the early days—Means of travel—Julian Estrada and Joaquin Estrada—Rufus Burnett Olmstead, Jerry Johnson, the Mathers, and the Leffingwells—Trade by barter—Mexican governors of California—The coming of the Americans. THE CONQUEST: A move by the Americans—Fremont—The trip to Sonoma, and the raising of the Bear Flag—Ford's address—Sloat at Monterey—Fremont goes south—A blunder—Juan Flaco (Lean John) or John Brown's ride—The trouble in the south—Flores ahead—Stockton to the rescue—The Americans are defeated—Merritt retakes San Diego—Kit Carson and Stephen W. Kearny reach the crossing of the Colorado—Gillespie and Beal are sent to their relief—Pico defeats the Americans at San Pasqual—Lieutenant Gray to the rescue—Kearny and his dragoons reach San Diego—The Battle of the Mesa, and the capture of Los Angeles—Fremont goes north for recruits—San Luis Obispo captured—Pico a prisoner—Pico's life saved—The departure of Fremont—The struggle through the storm over San Marcos Pass—Terms of peace—Governors of California after the conquest—Fremont's great ride.

## CONTENTS—HISTORICAL

### CHAPTER V

#### SPANISH GRANTS AND OLD FAMILIES IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY ..... 51

THE GRANTS: A list of the grants made in San Luis Obispo County—The breaking up of the grants with the coming of the "Gringos." OLD FAMILIES: John M. Price—William G. Dana—Francis Ziba Branch—Isaac J. Sparks—Francis E. Quintana—Captain John Wilson—Mrs. Ramona Hillard—Mrs. Estafana Esquar.

### CHAPTER VI

#### DISCOVERY OF GOLD, AND EARLY HISTORY OF THE COUNTY ..... 56

Government under Kearny and Mason—Peace proclamation published—Discovery of gold—Governor Riley and the first constitution—First state election—California admitted to the Union, September 9, 1850—A jubilee—Counties established—First county elections—First courthouse, and laws of the court—First Sunday liquor law—First board of supervisors—Tax list and taxes in 1850—A few items of interest—A little episode not confined entirely to the past—A tribute to the early pioneers.

### CHAPTER VII

#### HISTORY FROM 1850 TO 1860. A LAND OF CRIMES ..... 62

Cattle-raising the principal industry—Travel limited—The whole county infested by bands of desperadoes—Love's Rangers—Murrieta, Vasquez, and Jack Powers—Murder of two Frenchmen—Murder at San Juan—Murder of the Read family at San Miguel Mission—Other crimes—Organizing of a Vigilance Committee—The pledge—Roll of members—The mysterious disappearance of O. K. Smith.

### CHAPTER VIII

#### THE GREAT DROUGHT. THE EARLY PIONEERS ..... 71

Development of the county hindered by various conditions—The early land-holders—Manner of life before the great drought—The dry years of 1862-63-64—J. P. Andrews raises hogs—The cattle die, new settlers come in, and a new era is entered upon—A pioneer woman, Mrs. Neal Stewart—Other pioneers of the coast section—Settlers in the Salinas valley—Early office holders—J. B. Kester tells about Old Creek—G. W. Hampton—P. W. Murphy—Messrs. James and D. D. Blackburn—D. W. James—John H. Hollister—Charles H. Johnson—Myron Angel—Henry M. Osgood—C. H. Phillips—J. J. Simmler—J. W. Slack—Major William Jackson and Mrs. Mary Jackson.

### CHAPTER IX

#### PRODUCTS OF THE SOIL, DAIRYING, GRAZING AND THE GREAT LANDHOLDINGS ..... 88

Wheat and barley—Cultivation of the wheat—Mills—Irrigation—Vegetables—Beans—Orchards—Dairying: Its history and growth—The Steele brothers—Production of butter and cheese—J. H. Orcutt and Laurel ranch—Grazing and the great landholding.

### CHAPTER X

#### MINERAL PRODUCTIONS ..... 96

GOLD: Where found—Early Indian and Mexican operations in the La Panza mines—Gold production in De la Guerra gulch—Prospecting on Navajo creek in 1882—The stream and pool in Haystack cañon—Crevice deposits near the "Painted Rock"—Findings of an old prospector in 1879—Report of Mason and Still. SALT: The salt springs around the headwaters of the Salinas—The dry lake bed on the Carissa plains. COAL: Outcroppings in northern end of the county—The rocks along the bay at San Simeon—Coal-Mountain. QUICKSILVER: Josephine mine—Klau mine—Pine Mountain mine—The Keystone mine—Oceanic mine. COPPER: Good Will mine—Goodwill Mining Syndicate. CHROMIUM: Ranks next to quicksilver—Twelve-mile vein northwest of San Luis Obispo—

## CONTENTS—HISTORICAL

Deposits at the head of Chorro creek—Assay and production—Deposit between San Luis Obispo and Avila—Shipments. OTHER MINERALS AND STONES: Silica—Iron—Lime—Gypsum—Alabaster—Onyx—ASPHALTUM: Deposits on the Corral de Piedra, Pismo, and Santa Manuela grants—Uses—The beds below Edna—Shipments—The Huasna deposits—Tar Springs ranch. THE OIL INDUSTRY: Early operations in Price's cañon—Tiber Oil Company—Operations of the Baker Ensign Company and the California Paint Company at Hadley—The Producers Transportation Company—The Tank Farm—Ships and shipments. BUILDING STONE: The yellow sandstone quarries near Arroyo Grande—The green granite of Bishop's Peak and San Luis Mountain—"Chalk rock"—The red granite of Morro Rock. STATISTICAL DATA: Items from assessor's report, and statistics of the State Mining Bureau.

## CHAPTER XI

### ROADS, WHARVES, RAILROADS, STAGE LINES AND MAIL ROUTES, COUNTY BUILDINGS AND COUNTY FINANCES

103

ROADS: Travel in the early days—Early road laws—Roads and bridges—State highway. WHARVES: Pismo wharf—Morro wharf—San Simeon wharf—Cuyucos wharf—Wharves on San Luis bay—County wharves. RAILROADS: Bill enacted, authorizing construction of a railroad from San Luis bay to Santa Maria valley—San Luis Obispo Railroad Co.—San Luis Obispo & Santa Maria Valley Railroad Co.—Fares—Oregon Navigation Co.—Pacific Coast Railway Co.—Southern Pacific Railroad—Excursion and land sale—Tunnels—May 5, 1894, a historic date in the county's history—Completion of the line from San Francisco to Los Angeles—From surf boat to parlor car. MAIL ROUTES AND STAGE LINES: First regular mail route—First post office—Early passenger service to Monterey, San Jose and San Francisco—Tri-weekly and daily stage and mail service from San Francisco to Los Angeles—Coast Line Stage Co.—A typical stage driver—Other mail routes and stage lines—Post offices and post office receipts. COUNTY BUILDINGS: Courthouse and Hall of Records—Walter Murray's stand in the interest of public progress—County hospital. COUNTY FINANCES: Early property valuation, tax rate and taxes, state and county—Work of present advisory board—Present valuation, debt, and tax rates on city and county property.

## CHAPTER XII

### SCHOOLS, CHURCHES AND LODGES

113

Edwin Markham and his "Oak-tree College." SCHOOLS: The first schools in California—First American schools—Provision of public school fund—Public school system established—First public schools in San Luis Obispo County—Early teachers, and county superintendents—Attendance in 1882—Pioneer teachers—Growth of the schools since 1882—School funds—A much misunderstood law. HIGH SCHOOLS: San Luis Obispo high school—Paso Robles high school—Templeton union high school—Arroyo Grande union high school. NEW GRAMMAR SCHOOLS: Paso Robles, Santa Margarita, Atascadero, San Marcos. OTHER SCHOOLS: Academy of the Immaculate Heart—The State Polytechnic School. OUR HONORED VETERANS: Mrs. Mary S. Spaulding—Clara Belle Churchill—Flora E. Armstrong—William M. Armstrong—Clara E. Paulding—F. E. Darke. CHURCHES: Pioneer churches and preachers—Episcopal Church—Presbyterian churches. LODGES: Early and later Masonic and Odd Fellow lodges—Rebekah lodges and Eastern Star—Knights of Pythias—Native Sons and Native Daughters—Other lodges.

## CHAPTER XIII

### THE PRESS, THE BENCH AND BAR, PHYSICIANS AND OTHERS

131

THE PRESS: The Californian—The Pioneer—The Tribune—The South Coast—The Southern California Advocate—The Mirror—The Breeze—The Telegram. BENCH AND BAR: Early judges—Judges Beebe, Venable, Gregory, Gregg, Unangst, and Murray—Present judges and lawyers. PHYSICIANS: The pioneer doctors—Present practitioners. OTHER PROMINENT NAMES: Dana, Mallah, Leland, Rodriguez, Kelshaw—Present county officials—Paderewski's ranch—The Atascadero Colony.

## CONTENTS—HISTORICAL

### CHAPTER XIV

#### CITIES, TOWNS, AND VILLAGES..... 136

SAN LUIS OBISPO, THE CITY OF THE BISHOP: Description of the early settlement—Land rights—Organized under state law in 1859—Incorporated as a city in 1876—History of the water works—Progress in development and in population since 1868—Present city government—Public improvements—Fires—Churches—New Federal Building—Banks—San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce—The Woman's Civic Club of San Luis Obispo—Climate. PASO ROBLES: Incorporated in 1889—Pioneer business men—Dr. J. H. Glass—Other pioneers—Products—Churches—Banks—Upper Salinas Valley Fair—Newspapers—Public improvements. TEMPLETON: Settlement—Pioneers: Albert Crum, H. C. Whitney, Lyman Brewer, Frank Hansen, Harry Scheele, Will Lawton, Drs. Pendleton and Heath, Dr. S. Helgesen, G. H. Fisher, Eben Ward, H. B. Morrison, Jean Donelson, William Horstman, Hans Petersen—Other pioneer business men—Pioneer families: The Wessels, the Bierers, the Mercers, the Thomas's—"College Hill"—Present business men—Churches—The first entertainment—Attractive features of the town. SAN MIGUEL: Settlement—Celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the Mission—Improvements and industries. CRESTON. SANTA MARGARITA: Location and settlement—Industries and improvements. NIPOMO: Location, improvements and industries. PISMO: Pismo beach—Pismo clam beds—The baths—Scenery and climate. ARROYO GRANDE: Location—Development since 1867—Incorporated in 1911—Improvements and industries—Bank of Arroyo Grande—Newspapers—Seed farms—The valley. OCEANO: Location—Shipping interests—"Le Grand Beach." NEWSOM'S SPRINGS: Location—As a resort—The springs. BERROS: Location and industries. SAN SIMEON: Early shipping interests—Early stage line—Ocean View mine—Captain Clark's whaling station—Industries and improvements—Piedra Blanca lighthouse. CAMBRIA: Government land surveyed and thrown open to settlement—Early settlers—Adoption of its name—Early enterprises—Improvements and industries. CAYUCOS: The name—Captain James Cass—Early settlers—Pioneer ministers—Pioneer business men—The abalone cannery—Other business firms—Another O. K. Smith item—The Cayucos bank robbery. MORRO: Morro Rock—Campers on the "Point"—The legend of Morro Rock—The town laid out in 1870-71—Celebration on Toro creek, July 4, 1870—Atascadero Beach—Morro Rock Inn—Improvements and industries. AVILA: Laid out by the Avila brothers—Avila beach—The county wharf. PORT SAN LUIS: Wharves—Hotel Marre—The harbor—The lighthouse—San Luis hot sulphur springs—The climate. POZO: The name—The Salinas river—The climate. SHANDON: Adoption of the name—Laid out by the West Coast Land Co.—The staple product—Starkey—Pioneer settlers—Products and climate.

### CHAPTER XV

#### PRESIDENTIAL VISITS, AND THE G. A. R. .... 149

President McKinley's visit—President Roosevelt's visit—G. A. R. of San Luis Obispo County: Colonel Harper Post, No. 126, roster and charter members; Fred Steele Post, No. 70, charter members and present officers—Woman's Relief Corps of Arroyo Grande, organization and charter members—The Fred Steele Relief Corps, past presidents and present officers.

### CHAPTER XVI

#### A CELEBRATED LAND CASE, AND OLD COUNTY DOCUMENTS . . . 173

The story of the litigation over the Cuesta rancho—Copy of old documents found in the county clerk's office—An old account, illustrating old-time transactions.

### CHAPTER XVII

#### A CHAPTER OF POLITICAL HISTORY, AND ITEMS FROM THE TRIBUNE..... 176

First county election—Early political parties—First Republican state convention in 1856—The county divided into election precincts in 1859—Election of 1860; the state carried for Lincoln—The first Republican county convention, in 1873—Various parties—The state divided into six Congressional districts—Organization of the Grangers, the Good Samaritans, and the Good Templars—A new issue: Saloons or no saloons—The Farmers' Alliance—Progress of Prohibition—Items of interest taken from the files of the Tribune.

## HISTORY OF SANTA MARIA VALLEY

By John H. Haydon

SANTA MARIA .....	183
Laid out in 1875—Change of name—Early buildings—Churches—Early school districts—Pacific Coast Railroad—First hotel—First brick buildings—Reuben Hart—An eye for the beautiful—Efforts at fruit industry—Banks—Homicide—Telephone—Incorporation—Temples and halls—Lodges in the city—Santa Maria high school—Grammar schools—Hotels—Roads—Santa Maria oil fields—Operations of the oil companies—The Palmer field, and the Santa Maria Valley and Southern Pacific railroads—Sisquoc.	
SANTA MARIA VALLEY AND ENVIRONS.....	189
Location and description of valley—Fremont's expedition in 1846. Guadalupe rancho: Original grant—The "Old Adobe"—Industries—Settlement of Guadalupe—Pioneers—Chisito Olivera—Lodges—History of growth. Rancho Punta de la Laguna: Original grant and patent—The Laguna—Santa Maria watershed—Early industries—The Union Sugar Company—Improved farming methods—Public improvements—Bean culture. Sucy rancho: Original grant and patent—Location—Stock, grain and beans. Rancho Tepesquet: Original grant—W. D. Foxen—Pacifico Ontiveros, patentee—Santa Maria mesa. Sisquoc rancho: Location and description—Industries. Rancho Tinaquic: Original grant and patent—Industries. Rancho Los Alamos: Original grant and patent—Contest over title—Industries—Los Alamos. Todos Santos rancho: Original grant and patent—La Graciosa pass—The great gusher, Hartnell No. 2. Town of Garey: Thomas A. Garey—Kaiser brothers—Attempts at fruit culture. Orcutt: Charter provision—Improvements and industries. CUYAMA VALLEY: Description—Pioneer settlers—Early school districts—The drought of 1897-98—Products and improvements—Cuyama rancho: Original grant and patent—Ranches No. 1 and No. 2—Improvements—"A TRAGEDY OF THE RANGE," by Augustus Slack. WHAT WAS PUBLIC DOMAIN OF SANTA MARIA VALLEY: Locations by early settlers—La Graciosa district—Santa Maria city and vicinity.	
A CHAPTER ON EDUCATION.....	202
Education under the Mexican régime—American influence—Early commissioners—Early county superintendents—Recent county superintendents—The schools of the Santa Maria valley—The high school district—The Bell district.	





# INDEX—BIOGRAPHICAL

## A

Aaroe, Hans Nissen .....	924
Aaroe, Laurits N. ....	728
Abbey, Thomas F. ....	303
Abels, Henry John .....	939
Ables, Asa W. ....	455
Abramson, Martin Theodore.....	767
Acebedo, Manuel C. ....	689
Alberti, Lorenzo .....	986
Anderson, Charles W. ....	655
Anderson, Herman .....	798
Anderson, James Robert .....	897
Anderson, John S. ....	601
Anderson, Victor .....	654
Andrews, George H. ....	352
Andrews, George Leslie .....	607
Andrews, John Pinckney.....	207
Angel, Myron .....	78
Arata, P. A. H. ....	531
Armstrong, Flora E. ....	127
Armstrong, William M. ....	127
Asebez, Edward .....	807
Asmus, T. C. ....	920
Atkinson, J. W. ....	941
Avila, Manuel F. ....	972
Awalt, William Henry .....	610

## B

Bagby, William C. ....	802
Bagnell, John D. ....	866
Bakeman, George A. ....	783
Ballard, Edward Boucher .....	814
Ballard, Thomas Jefferson .....	375
Bank of Santa Maria .....	389
Barba, Ramon N. ....	795
Barlogio, Joseph .....	985
Barnhart, James .....	718
Barr, Sidney Montgomery.....	902
Bassi, Alessio .....	1031
Bassi, Angiolino .....	1015
Bassi, Rimabdo .....	1030
Bassi, Ugo .....	1032
Bassi, Vincenzo .....	733
Beckett, John F. ....	752
Bell, George F. ....	781
Bennedsen, Jens .....	515
Bennett, Frank E. ....	579
Bennett, Warren C. ....	275
Berkemeyer, John B. ....	597
Bettiga, Louis .....	979
Biaggini, Ercole .....	309
Branchini, Eugenio .....	730
Biasotti, Alex .....	993
Bickmore, Elery .....	582
Biddle, Philip and John.....	587
Biggs, Mr. and Mrs. John D.....	317
Bigler, A. B. ....	442

Bilton, Leonard Law.....	691
Black, John P. ....	246
Black, Patrick James .....	256
Blackburn D. D. ....	76
Blackburn, James .....	76
Bondietti, A. ....	995
Booth, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred R.....	667
Borkey, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Paul.....	557
Bosse, Henry .....	767
Botts, John Franklin.....	632
Bowen, Royal Eugene .....	713
Bowers, Frank J. ....	935
Boyd, John .....	393
Boyd, Thomas .....	362
Bradhoff, John Henry.....	591
Bradley, Charles .....	232
Brainard, John H. ....	602
Branch, Francis Ziba .....	54, 394
Branch, J. Fred .....	377
Bras, Anton V. ....	1005
Brass, John V. ....	1003
Brass, Joseph, Sr. ....	1003
Bray, Egbert D. ....	546
Brewer, Lyman .....	657
Brintnall Eucalyptus Ranch.....	949
Brooks, Benjamin .....	503
Brooks, Herbert E. ....	624
Brooks, Mr. and Mrs. Myron H.....	497
Brophy, John .....	786
Brown, Evan .....	848
Brown, James M. ....	355
Brown, Richard .....	453
Brubaker, Mr. and Mrs. Elias P.....	338
Bryan, George W. ....	925
Budan, Edith B. ....	318
Budan, Herman .....	318
Buley, Rev. Thomas McPherson.....	779
Bunch, John H. ....	927
Burke, William G. ....	587

## C

Cahill, Hiram S. ....	661
Calderon, Jose J. ....	1020
Calderon, Jose S. ....	1013
Campodonico, S. ....	335
Campodonico, Stephen V. ....	1034
Careaga, Bernardo F. ....	658
Careaga, Charles M. ....	735
Careaga, James F. ....	613
Careaga, Ramon A. ....	908
Careaga, Ramon F. ....	217
Carr, Thornton Washington.....	310
Carranza, Geronimo .....	397
Carroll, John .....	617
Carson, Charles .....	459
Carson, Ellard W. ....	815
Cass, Charles Albert .....	400
Cass, Capt. James .....	435
Castillo, Gasparito .....	700

# INDEX—BIOGRAPHICAL

Castro, Rosamel ..	943
Castro, Vicente ..	943
Cesnat, Ernest E. ....	619
Chaffin, Mrs. George ..	943
Chapek, John ..	569
Chase, Samuel P. ....	910
Cheadle, Charles A. ....	419
Childs, Mr. and Mrs. John E. ....	291
Christensen, Abraham ..	639
Christensen, C. A. ....	679
Christensen, John ..	581
Churchill, Arthur C. ....	749
Churchill, Clara Belle ..	126
Clarl., Capt. Abner ..	450
Claus, Mr. and Mrs. Charles T. ....	810
Clausen, Fritz ..	734
Clnd., Frank ..	889
Coimer, Samuel T. ....	330
Colbeck, William Thomas ..	797
Colby, H. H., D. O. ....	788
Conkey, John F. ....	551
Conkey, Robert M. ....	938
Conrad, William Arthur, Jr. ....	560
Cook, Alex Stirling ..	609
Contorno, Othello Charles ..	611
Costa, Frank ..	516
Cox, Arthur E. ....	860
Cox, Marion ..	959
Craig, Edgar ..	865
Crediford, Joseph ..	785
Crossett, Fred D. ....	596
Crum, Albert ..	685
Cuendet, Frederic ..	727
Culp, William W. ....	376
Curti, Joseph ..	1025

## D

Dana, Richard H. ....	538
Dana, William G. ....	53
Daniels, Edward J. ....	905
Darke, Frederick E. ....	128, 229
Dauth, Otto Edgar ..	895
Davis, Anthony Tinsley ..	871
Davis, Joseph Benjamin ..	349
Dean, Fred A. ....	835
Deising, Walter Hugh ..	950
Deiss, George F. ....	545
Deleissegues, Alberto ..	854
Deleissegues, Benjamin Pierre ..	953
Dille, Stephen P. ....	631
Doane, George M., Sr. ....	521
Dodd, Willis ..	899
Domingues, John P. ....	998
Donelson, Virlin Eugene ..	705
Douglas, Charles ..	490
Donovan, Jerry ..	293
Doty, Jacob R. ....	855
Doty, Sherman L. ....	840
Dougherty, William ..	568
Dougherty, Patrick ..	888
Dougherty, James D. ....	400
Dresser, William Orlando ..	744
Drum, Calvin R. ....	494
Dubost, Alfred Auguste ..	823
Duckworth, August ..	491
Dudley, Albert Allen ..	845
Dunbar, Robert P. ....	1024

## E

Eames, Abraham Lincoln ..	859
Earl, Fred ..	922
Earl, John Robert ..	919
Earl, Robert Wesley ..	413
Eddy, William Tyler ..	405
Ellis, William ..	828
Emerson, Mrs. Dove ..	647
Enos, William L. ....	1001
Erickson, Matt William ..	729
Erickson, Oscar F. ....	790
Estergren, John P. ....	877
Exline, Bernard ..	237
Exline, Mrs. Harriet Esther ..	281
Exline, Levi ..	271
Exline, Vernon ..	613

## F

Farnum, Lucius Lamar ..	870
Fast, Gustav W. ....	833
Feliciano, Antone ..	1028
Ferrari, Severino ..	914
Ferrasci, Louis ..	980
Filipponi, Laurice ..	988
Filoucheau, F. J. ....	930
Fink, Carl ..	413
Fink, Charles ..	412
Finley, Hon. T. R. ....	257
First National Bank of Santa Maria, The ..	520
Fiscalini, Charles ..	982
Fiscalini, John D. ....	977
Fleig, Joseph ..	804
Foley, Patrick ..	881
Forbes, James F. ....	868
Ford, John J. ....	801
Fotheringham, Frank E. ....	751
Fouch, Erastus ..	573
Fowler, Cecil H. ....	960
Foxen, Thomas Frank ..	543
Franklin, J. H., M. D. ....	590
Fratris, Frank M. ....	1032
Fratris, John J. ....	987
Fredrickson, Gustav Robert ..	793
Freeman, Mrs. Albert J. ....	945
Freeman, John C. ....	635
Freeman, Josiah ..	743
Freeman, Rega Dent ..	504
Freeman, Thomas Francis ..	730
Frick, Norman F. ....	576
Fritzinger, Edward Henry ..	899
Froom, John R. ....	626
Fruits, George A. ....	803
Fuller, George Lesh ..	906

## G

Gallup, Howard A., M. D. ....	581
Ganoung, Mrs. Priscilla ..	443
Garcia, Lazaro Silvers ..	881
Gardner, Mrs. Helen L. ....	420
Garkee, Mrs. Lulu Terrill ..	332
Gates, Marion Francis ..	723
Gerst, Michael ..	409
Ghigliotti, John ..	976
Gibbons, Lewis D. and Carrie ..	226

# INDEX—BIOGRAPHICAL

Gibson, Alex Franklin .....	787
Gibson, Ernest H. ....	502
Gillespie, George Winfield.....	514
Gillis, Archibald .....	757
Gillis, Mrs. Lucy .....	416
Gingg, G. Conrad.....	589
Giumini, Innocenti .....	971
Glass, Karl Bevan .....	652
Glines, Cassius H. ....	244
Glines, John T. and Dora B. ....	948
Glines, Robert Cassius .....	867
Gnesa, Henry Andrew.....	1022
Goodchild, James Wilson .....	476
Goodchild, John Thomas .....	447
Goodchild, Ramon W. ....	915
Gorham, Thomas P. ....	829
Goulding, James M. ....	849
Grafft, Herbert W. ....	911
Gragg, George T. ....	231
Grant, John .....	847
Gray, Samuel .....	278
Grove, Mrs. Clara Susan.....	894
Gruwell, Charles L. ....	563
Guerra, Mrs. Mary .....	1021
Gularte, John S. ....	994
Gularte, Manuel S. ....	1022
Gunderson, Gunder .....	832
Guy, John .....	882

## H

Haabesland, Hjalmar .....	707
Hahl, Ernest A. ....	928
Hallstrom, Oscar E. ....	934
Hampton, G. W. ....	75
Hansen, Hans N. ....	544
Hansen, John C. ....	574
Hansen, Jacob P. ....	917
Hansen, Morten Peter .....	513
Hanson, Carl E. ....	673
Harloe, Capt. Marcus.....	479
Harris, John L. ....	911
Harrison, John H. ....	958
Hart, Reuben .....	224
Hathway, Amos Riley.....	361
Haun, Louis Z. ....	567
Hawkins, Howard A. ....	674
Haydon, John H. ....	565
Hearst, George W. ....	559
Heinrich, Johannes R. ....	574
Hemphill William .....	570
Hobson, Clarence J. ....	954
Hollister, John H. ....	77
Holloway, John James.....	219
Holmes, Albert .....	789
Holt, Henry .....	297
Holzinger, Ed. ....	831
Holzinger, Martin .....	680
Hopper, David Le Roy.....	876
Hopper, John B. ....	876
Hopper, John T. ....	873
Hopper, Oliver and Everett.....	874
Horstman, Albert Ralph.....	778
Houghton, George A. ....	412
Houghton, Jonah .....	411
Houk, John .....	398
Hourihan, Patrick E. ....	904
Howard, A. A. ....	857
Howard, Harry H. ....	598

Hudson, John .....	698
Hudson, Perry .....	905
Hudson, William K. ....	880
Hughes, James M. ....	916
Hultquist, John .....	891

## I

Ide, Bela Clinton.....	552
Iliff, Horace Greeley.....	898
Iversen, Andrew H. ....	933
Iversen, Chresten A. ....	324
Iverson, Clemen Fredleff .....	851
Iverson, Hans .....	846
Iverson, Iver .....	843
Iverson, Mat. ....	300

## J

Jack, Miss Christine.....	223
Jackson, Major William.....	85
James, D. W. ....	77
Jardine, John T. ....	774
Jensen, Thomas .....	955
Jespersen, Christian N. ....	927
Jespersen, Hans I. ....	824
Jessee, Archer Catron .....	250
Jessee, Bert E. ....	916
Johe, William .....	422
Johnson, Albert .....	675
Johnson, Charles H. ....	78
Johnson, Edwin S. ....	864
Johnson, Elvert Andrew .....	722
Johnson, Niels .....	636
Johnson, Peter and Ina.....	382
Johnson, Thomas .....	928
Jones Albert .....	456
Jones, J. Thomas .....	614
Jones, Miss Sophia F. ....	457
Jones, Mrs. Sophie Butler.....	312
Jones, Thomas Allen .....	312

## K

Kalar, Johnson M. ....	469
Kelsea, Henry Clay.....	816
Kester, John Bonham.....	383
Kiler, Mrs. Jane .....	645
Kimball, John Albion.....	794
King, Charles O. ....	292
King, Maria Zorada .....	271
Kinnebrew, Marcus .....	951
Kinney, Charles S. ....	679
Kirchner, Gottlieb W. ....	535
Kitchen, William Henry.....	830
Klintworth, Gerd .....	771
Kneppel Bros. ....	664
Kortner, Christian .....	277
Kortner, James .....	277
Krumlinde, John Charles M.....	879
Kuehl, Mrs. Emma .....	790
Kuhnle, Emanuel D. ....	669

## L

Lack, Rev. F. M. ....	634
Lamm, George .....	642
Lambrecht, Peter C. ....	721

# INDEX—BIOGRAPHICAL

Lamm, Gioacchino	965
Larsen, Carl	742
Lauridsen, Louis	853
Lee, Joseph B. F.	597
Leffingwell, William and William J.	500
Lehner, Mary Vignette	486
Leisy, Herbert E.	745
Lertora, James	345
Lewis, Charles Samuel	791
Lewis, Mrs. Frances E.	924
Lewis, Jesse E.	537
Lima, Frank A. and Manuel F.	522
Lingo, George W.	699
Linn, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Malcolm	651
Long, E. E.	623
Loose, August, Jr.	855
Lopez, Joseph V.	1014
Lovgren, Alfred Theodore	714
Lowe, Dawson	390
Lowe, S. Jackson	542
Lucas, William T., M. D.	249
Luchessa, James	978
Luis, Joseph S.	969
Lundbeck, Frank J.	653
Lyman, Harry E.	524
Lynch, Frank J., D. O.	585

## M

McAlmon, John W.	930
McCabe, Anthony F.	598
McCann, Peter	784
McClulloch, John	838
McDonald, Michael	629
McElligott, William	914
McKay, Ralph E.	901
McKee, Tomas Edgar	909
McKinzie, Simon Henley	706
McMillan, Alexander	432
McMillan, Donald C.	481
McNeil, Archibald	404
Maddonald, William	937
Mader, Anton	656
Madonna, Paul	984
Madrugra, Manuel F.	1033
Madsen, Niels G.	756
Magoria, Peter F.	962
Mahoney, James J.	825
Maino, Joseph	358
Malmberg, Rev. Anders O.	764
Mann, William Joseph	782
Maretti, Joseph C.	974
Margetts, Percy Jennings	690
Marre, Luigi	211
Martin, James Wightman	837
Martinez, Manuel M.	996
Marzorini, John	991
Mathieson, Hans Peter	554
Mastagni, Bernardo A.	989
Meherin, Michael J.	298
Melchior, Taylor S.	344
Meng, Albert	826
Meyer, Eskel E.	886

Miller, Orrin E.	635
Miller, William Alfred	773
Minetti, Thomas	1012
Miossi, Bernardo	973
Monighetti, Charles	970
Moore, George W.	913
Moore, Oliver Perry	387
Mora, Rafael A.	620
Morehous, Edward Sherman	719
Morehouse, Ambert C.	662
Morrison, Annie L.	463
Morrison, Hamilton Brown	428
Morton, Mrs. Annia Blair	719
Mosher, Carmi Edison	567
Murphy, P. W.	76
Muscio, Abram	414
Muscio, Clement	990

## N

Negranti, James Peter, Sr.	724
Nelson, Andrew	378
Nelson, Frederick	851
Nelson, Knute Berger	763
Nelson, Ole	501
Nelson, Swan	900
Nerelli, Lorenzo	1011
Newsom, David F.	235
Nichols, Stanley L.	525
Nicholson, Abraham Lincoln	922
Nielsen, James Poulsen	585
Nielsen, Knud	592
Norris, John M.	869
Nunez, Frank	758
Nunez, Manuel	1017
Nyberg, Charles L.	840

## O

Oakley, Carey C. and William C.	370
Oakley, William Calvin, Jr.	952
O'Donovan, Patrick	811
Oilar, John Lincoln	604
Olgati, Charles	990
Ontiveros, Abdon T.	857
Ontiveros, Abraham	364
Ontiveros, Jose Dolores and Mrs. Augusta	381
Ontiveros, Juan Pacifico	364
Ontiveros, Kencho Salvador	903
Ooley, John Harris	646
Ortega, Victor	717
Osgood, Henry M.	79

## P

Palla, Joseph Edward	836
Palmer, Charles W.	603
Palmer, John Joseph	806
Paolini, Luis	1019
Parnell, Harry	940
Paul, Alva	304
Paulding, Mrs. Clara E.	127
Pearson, Charles H.	509
Pedraita, Louis G.	1018
Pedrotta, James	700
Pentzer, W. C.	862
Peppard, Matthew F.	580

# INDEX—BIOGRAPHICAL

Perinoni, Frank .....	746	Routzahn, Lewis C. ....	466
Perozzi, Peter .....	967	Rubel, Eugene D. ....	936
Perry, Robert Lucian .....	762	Rucker, James H. ....	329
Pertusi, Filippo .....	1007	Rude, Amador Nevada .....	438
Petersen, John .....	529	Rude, Mrs. Emma Kearney .....	553
Petersen, Martin .....	875	Rude, William H. ....	856
Petersen, Thomas .....	774	Ruiz, Eliseo B. ....	1012
Peterson, Andrew C. ....	601	Rui, E-stanslao N. ....	1018
Peterson, Capt. Frederick J. ....	890	Rusconi, Fulgenzio C. ....	968
Peterson, Halver .....	800	Rutherford, Jesse T. ....	697
Peterson, Swan .....	305	Ryan, John J. ....	822
Pezzoni, Ernest J. ....	966		
Pfister, Albert .....	319	S	
Pfister, Paul .....	752	Salmina, Marius G. ....	981
Phelan, Jeffrey .....	618	Samuelson, Philip .....	923
Phelan, Jeffrey William .....	618	Sanborn, Harry John .....	956
Phelan, Michael W. ....	609	Sanchez, Miguel D. ....	740
Philbrick, George A. ....	885	Santa Maria Free Public Library .....	918
Phillips, C. H. ....	79	Santa Maria Union High School .....	907
Pimentel, August C. ....	1023	Santa Maria Valley Railroad .....	938
Pimentel, Joseph C. ....	1002	Santos, Manuel J. ....	1010
Pinkert, Mrs. Magdalena .....	708	Sargenti, George .....	999
Pippin, William T. ....	884	Sarmento, Manuel .....	964
Plympton, Robert M. ....	633	Satchell, Ernest A. ....	944
Poletti, James .....	992	Saunders, Harry C. ....	942
Pond, John H. ....	478	Scaroni, John .....	1031
Powell, Col. William V. ....	472	Scaroni, Leo P. ....	384
Prell, John G. ....	264	Schlegel, Joseph, Jr. ....	809
Prewitt, John Calhoun .....	331	Schroeder, Henry F. ....	684
Price, John M. ....	52, 299	Schulze, William H. ....	523
Price, William B. ....	498	Schutte, Fred .....	711
Purkiss, Myrton M. ....	912	Scolari, Pietro .....	1037
Q		Seeber, Alonzo H. ....	536
Quenzer, Fred .....	894	Senneth, John .....	844
Quintana, Francis E. ....	55	Serrano, Carlos .....	530
R		Serrano, Michael .....	530
Radloff, William Carl .....	766	Shackelford, Richard M. ....	263
Rainey, Robert Alexander .....	670	Sherman, Thaddeus .....	796
Rainey, Willard C. ....	850	Shimmin, Marion .....	261
Records, Spencer C. ....	337	Shinners, Michael .....	663
Records, Thomas B. ....	391	Signorelli, Alfred Isadore .....	1035
Reese, Jenkin .....	741	Signorelli, Celestino .....	1026
Reid, Robert P. ....	870	Signorelli, Frank .....	1036
Reinke, John Henry .....	921	Signorelli, Louis .....	1029
Rembusch, Joseph A. ....	841	Signorelli, Lovia .....	1029
Reynolds, Carmi W. ....	607	Silacci, Antone .....	975
Reynolds, Charles .....	808	Silacci, Paul .....	1016
Reynolds, Dwight .....	243	Silacci, Peter .....	1021
Reynolds, Ross .....	763	Silva, Faustino J. ....	1009
Rhyne, Walter W. ....	772	Silva, Joseph C., Jr. ....	1000
Rice, Marion Bell .....	858	Silva, Joseph F. ....	1027
Rice, William H. ....	888	Silverna, Anton, Jr. ....	1004
Richina, Peter .....	967	Silveira, Antonio P. ....	997
Ricioli, Victor .....	976	Smunder, J. J. ....	80
Righetti, Frank Egedio .....	1035	Sims, Isaac .....	931
Robertson, Risdom W. ....	932	Skinner, C. P. ....	866
Rolita, Manuel P. ....	963	Slack, J. W. ....	81
Ronconi, Charles, Jr. ....	989	Smith, Benjamin Reed .....	694
Root, George Francis .....	670	Smith, Clark Sherwood .....	692
Rosa, Jose G. ....	1013	Smith, Henry B. ....	541
Rossi, Vincent .....	782	Smith, Prof. Nelson Croxford .....	907
Rotanzi, Eligio .....	1019	Smith, William E. ....	630
Rotta, Gerome .....	994	Smithers, Amos .....	566
Rougeot, Thomas H. ....	883	Soares, Joseph C. ....	1005
		Souza, Antonio J. ....	294
		Souza, Catano Joseph .....	425
		Souza, Frank C. ....	1001
		Souza, Joe L. ....	906

# INDEX—BIOGRAPHICAL

Souza, John Paul	1009
Souza, Manuel J., Sr.	319
Souza, Maria Dorothy	425
Sparks, Isaac J.	55
Spaulding, Mrs. Mary B.	126
Spillman, John Calvin	926
Spooner, Rev. A. B.	129
Spooner, Alden Bradford	287
Steiner, Karl	547
Stevens, Thomas	532
Stevenson, Milton Stewart	834
Stewart, Mrs. Neal	73
Stier, Henry A.	865
Still, Abram A.	437
Still, Mrs. Lelia Penwell	487
Stockdale, David Finley	238
Stokes, William C.	323
Stoltz, Randolph Joseph	863
Stombs, Mrs. S. R.	959
Stone, Carol H.	886
Stornetta, Antonio	988
Storni, Achille	1016
Storni, Nicola	961
Stull, Ed	860
Stull, Jacob B.	861
Stumpf, John	641
Sutton, Herbert Charles	485
Swall, Mathias R.	504
Sykes, Henry	703

## T

Talbot, Giles N.	625
Tanner, Henry	624
Tanner, James C. and Nora E.	592
Taylor, Hiram	283
Taylor, John	797
Taylor, Peter	455
Terris, David, Sr.	392
Thaler, David	352
Thomas, Allen Lloyd	475
Thompson, Charlotte M. (Ashbaugh)	410
Thornburg, John	346
Thralls, Arthur	792
Thralls, James Constantine	833
Thurmond, Gideon Edward	564
Tidrow, Joseph	677
Tietzen, Paul O.	371
Tobey, Stephen Henry	470
Tognazzini, Abraham	1025
Tognazzini, John	972
Tognazzini, Samuel Martin	964
Tolle, Henry Bascome	683
Tomasini, Benjamin	983
Tomasini, Frank E.	985
Tonini, Michael	962
Tonini, Robert	983
Trigueiro, Manuel	995
Trigueiro, Manuel J.	1011
True, Charley	765
True, Hanson W.	712
Truesdale, Isaac Newton	934
Truesdale, Willis H.	520
Tucker, Douglas A.	827
Tuley, Jacob Thomas	893
Tuley, John B.	648
Tuley, William Henry	460
Tunnell, George R.	427
Tunnell, Martin Luther	426
Twitchell, Jacob Silas	812

## U

Upton, Roscoe E.	863
------------------	-----

## V

Valley Savings Bank	937
Vanderpool, P. F.	736
Van Matre, Isaac S.	548
Vasquez, Rudolph	575
Vear, Frank	761
Villa, Frank N.	768
Villi, Augusto	970
von Dollen, Martin E. E.	892
von Dollen, Max	755

## W

Wahlgren, O. P.	835
Waite, David	519
Walker, Judge Gordon G.	356
Wallace, William	569
Waller, L. D.	618
Warden, Horatio M., Jr.	608
Warden, Horatio Moore	209
Warden, Mrs. Queenie	214
Webster, Hon. Jonathan Vinton	488
Weeks, Lewis Drew	433
Weir, Frederick William	879
Weir, George	818
Weir, Henry	891
Welsh, Joseph and Joseph Clarke	458
Wessman, Frank A.	805
Wharff, Arza A.	862
Whitaker, W. S. and Ira Ray	431
White, George A.	872
Whiteley, Thomas	443
Whitlock, Edwin S.	586
Whitney, Mark H.	919
Wickenden, Albert P.	950
Wickenden, Fred	289
Wickenden, John R.	947
Wickstrom, Edward Joseph	839
Wilkinson, Cleveland J.	957
Williams, Antonio	777
Williams, John Perari	777
Williams, Louis	906
Willson, Henry Sanford	507
Wilson, Charles	720
Wimmer, William Dalton	887
Witekowsky, Frank	641
Wolf, Albert	771
Wolf, Daniel	326
Wolf, Laura White	325
Wolf, Louis	842
Wolf, Otto	838
Worden, Clyde	820
Worden, Guy T.	878
Work, John	821
Wright, Horace G.	306
Wright, John Francis	444
Wyss, Otto	526

## Y

York, Walter	896
--------------	-----

## Z

Zanetti, Maurice	1008
Zanetti, Severino	1006
Zanetti, Tilden E.	1010
Zimmerman, A. August	799







# HISTORICAL

---

## HISTORY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

By Mrs. Annie L. Morrison

### INTRODUCTION

In reply to a letter the writer sent to the now famous novelist and dramatist, Horace Annesley Vachell, the following reply was received:

Beechwood House, Bartley,  
Southampton, England, Oct. 29, 1916.

My dear Mrs. Morrison—

I send the little sketch you ask for with pleasure, and hope it is what you wanted. With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

HORACE ANNESLEY VACHELL.

Mr. Vachell lived in San Luis Obispo County from 1882 until about 1894, on his Tally-Ho! ranch at Arroyo Grande, then on the ranch near San Luis Obispo, on the road to Pismo. Vachell Avenue is named for him. He married Lydie Phillips at Templeton in 1889. A son was born; and when this child was a few years old, a daughter. Mrs. Vachell died when the daughter was about a month old, and is buried in the San Luis Obispo city cemetery. Mr. Vachell returned to England with his children.

His family is one of the oldest in England, his ancestors coming with William the Conqueror. He was born at Sydenham, Kent, October 30, 1861. In Tyson's *Magna Britannica*, the Vachell family is recorded as the oldest in Berkshire, and that in 1309, John Vachell was Knight of the Shire. Many noted men came from this family. They were soldiers and statesmen ranking high in England. Horace Annesley Vachell was educated at the famous Harrow School, then entered the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, graduating in 1881, at the age of twenty. He wanted to enter a special regiment, but would be obliged to wait for several years; so he resigned his commission and decided upon a tour of America. The rest is told in the sketch he sent. The letter was written on black-bordered paper; for in June, 1916, his son, a member of the aviation corps of the British army, was killed—a sacrifice to the horrible war now raging in Europe. As this sketch is a sort of keynote to much that is to follow, we give it to our readers as an introduction.

### MEMORIES GREEN

By Horace Annesley Vachell

I remember vividly—as if it were yesterday—those delightful days in the early "eighties" when my brothers and I lived at Tally-Ho! ranch. Some colossal vegetables, exhibited in San Francisco, lured me to San Luis

Obispo County. That was in '82, and I came alone, not knowing a single soul in the ancient Mission town, but carrying a letter to my future father-in-law, C. H. Phillips, which I presented forthwith. He entertained me handsomely, and then passed me on to a compatriot, Major Moreton, who had bought land near Arroyo Grande. The Major was the most genial and hospitable of men, honorably known afterwards in Santa Cruz as "The Picnic King." I became his partner. At that time the vast Spanish ranchos were still in existence, and one could ride league after league without seeing that crude symbol of civilization—a barbed wire fence.

The Arroyo Grande valley was already settled up with bean-raisers and fruit-growers, all of them prosperous. The foothills were swarming with quail; the marshes held duck and snipe innumerable; the creeks were full of trout; and clams were to be had for the digging. What a paradise for the sportsman! And a good pony cost forty dollars! Add to this a superb climate and pleasant people. Throw into this delectable melting pot, youth, an inordinate appetite for enjoyment, and the probability of making a fortune easily. What more could be asked of the gods? Briefly, I had the time of my life, and rushed back to England to persuade others to join me. Many came. We started polo, and talked of a pack of hounds. We bought more land and planted out vineyards and orchards in blissful ignorance of horticulture and viticulture. I confess that we were reactionaries.

We liked best the old-timers, the patriarchs, the men of flocks and herds. We knew that the old order was passing, that the courteous Don had his back to the wall; but this knowledge lent a curious piquancy to our lives. We were witnesses of a great change. The "bad men," I remember, interested us enormously. A lynching of two neighbors thrilled us to the core. This was still the land of Bret Harte. I exchanged greetings with Frank James, and beheld Black Bart, who robbed stage-coaches, and pinned a copy of verse embalming his adventure to the nearest live-oak. The foothills harboured cattle and horse thieves, and half a dozen train-robbing desperadoes. We attended barbecues and rodeos, and practiced throwing the lariat. We fished and hunted all the time.

Our impressions of the people are not so easily recalled. Certainly, with rare exceptions, we remained very English. We wore breeches and boots, and rode in English saddles upon hogged-maned, bob-tailed ponies. We cherished the conviction that we should make fortunes and return to spend them in England. The old-timers hinted at dry years, but we paid no attention to them. Land bought at five dollars an acre was sold at sixty! We came to the conclusion that our rich friends did not know how to spend their money. I caught one millionaire digging post-holes, with the thermometer above eighty in the shade. I asked him point-blank, why he did it. "Young man," he replied, "why do you drive tandem?" I told him that I liked driving tandem. He replied drily: "And I like digging post-holes."

There were many amazing characters—what we call in England, "cards." I remember so well Uncle Johnny Price of Pismo, Billy Ryan, Captain Harloe of the Huasna, J. P. Andrews, the banker, the brothers Warden, Uncle Dave [redacted] If the men I knew who had much to do with the building of the state, such as Colonel Hollister, Frank McCoppin, Elwood Cooper, Charles Crocker and Senator Stanford, it is a keen regret

that I did not profit by many opportunities of asking questions. In those days I considered interrogation to be "bad form." My father-in-law, C. H. Phillips, became my intimate friend and companion. He was a man of great parts and energy. Had Fortune dealt with him more generously, he would have risen to the heights. I owe much happiness to him and his. He had, essentially, the broad outlook, and a delightful vein of humour. In bad times his pluck, courage and optimism shone out supreme. No man had a deeper faith in California, nor a livelier interest in men and affairs.

To Benjamin Brooks, the editor of the Tribune, I owe much kindly criticism and advice on literary matters. He encouraged me to write at a time when I needed badly such encouragement. He taught me the art to blot. He counselled me, most sagely, to deal faithfully and sincerely with life as it is rather than life as a budding novelist would like it to be. Oddly enough, he urged me again and again to write plays, affirming that I had a sense of the theatre which he regarded as a disability in a novelist.

I hope to revisit California in the near future. I want to smell the tarweed again, and to see the brown hills scintillate into opalescent colours as the sun sinks into the Pacific. It is a dear, sweet land, different from any other I have known, a land of immeasurable spaces. It is at once intimate and panoramic, a curious combination that baffles description. It allures irresistibly. During the horrors of this war, I have thought of it again and again as a sanctuary of peace and plenty. Long may it flourish! H. A. V.

No history of a county in California can be written until one has at least a speaking acquaintance with the history of the state, and that always reads like a romance. It began as that of a fabled island, peopled by a race of Amazons clothed in strange armor who engaged in continuous warfare on men and beasts alike.

The finger of Fate pointed westward in the dreams of Columbus, and his voyage of 1492 opened the way to a new world. Still the goal always lay to the west, and brave adventurous spirits followed the westward course until the blue Pacific, its islands, its seas, its tree-clad shores or battling cliffs were no longer myths but glorious realities.

Cabrillo, in 1542, was the first white man to set foot on our shores; and he was here in our own county of San Luis Obispo visiting San Luis bay, which he called Todos Santos, or All Saints bay. Los Esteros is Morro bay, and he gave to the great conical rock towering from its placid waters the name it still bears, Morro Rock.\* San Simeon bay was the Bay of Sardines, and he it was who named the Piedras Blancas on whose rocky heights now stands one of the finest lighthouses on the coast. Fifteen miles out to sea shine its beacon rays, warning ships away from the rocks. In times of storm, its booming fog-signals, coupled with the pounding surf, sound a requiem to the brave and dauntless Cabrillo. In May of 1908 the writer stood on the cliffs of San Simeon Bay and just at sunset saw the great fleet of United States war vessels sweep gallantly by on its trip around the world. The flags of "Our Own United States" waved from every great gray ironclad, strains of music floated to us on the evening air across the dimpling, sparkling waters; and from Cabrillo, in his crude vessel, to these

\* Cabrillo seems to have spelled the word with a single "r," for on a copy of his chart the name so appears.

big battleships was a far cry indeed. Few of those who watched had ever heard that Cabrillo was there in the summer of 1542, and that is one reason why this history is being written. If every man, woman and child in the county could read it, how interesting would be the places we daily see about us.

Our county has all the beauty of seashore and mountain peaks, of deep cañons, fertile valleys and sweeping plains. Over its rolling hills the grain fields dapple in harvest time, orchards climb the gentle slopes, and cattle by thousands graze on the higher pastures or the great grazing plains of the southeast. Its mineral wealth is of great value, its beaches beyond compare and its climate that of paradise.

The Padres founded within its precincts two great missions, and its history begins with Cabrillo in 1542, goes to the founding of San Luis Obispo de Tolosa in 1772, three years before the Atlantic coast was witnessing the War for Independence, and steadily on to the present, which is only the beginning of what is to be. The "dark and bloody days" of the Nacimiento, the days of the stage-coach, of no coach at all, of travel by schooner and sailing vessel, over cow-trails on horseback, and at last by fast trains down the valley, over the range and beside the sea will be authentically and pleasingly told.

All the industries will be written of and all the many resources discussed. The men and women, dead and living, who pioneered the way for us shall be remembered—and what a story they lived and worked out! Many of them sleep the long sleep in lonely hillside cemeteries or within sound of the lapping waves. None are left of the very early days, and only a few of the days when a vigilance committee had to hang murderers and thieves in order to make it possible for settlers to come and live in safety.

In order to understand the scenes and events described, one must know the topography of the county. All along the coast, cañons and valleys, each with its own sparkling stream, open to the sea. San Carpojaró, Arroyo la Cruz, Arroyo Pinal, San Simeon, Santa Rosa, Villa creek, Cayucos creek, Old creek, Toro creek, Morro creek, Islay creek, Cañon del Diablo, Pecho creek, San Luis creek, and Arroyo Grande creek. These open cañons or fertile valleys were the first sections settled. Along the coast were the great land grants which will be given a chapter by themselves. San Simeon bay, Cayucos, Morro bay, San Luis bay were, and three still are, good ports. Before wharves were built, there were "landings"—Cave landing with its robbers' caves, and Pecho landing, where goods and cattle were hoisted or lowered by derrick to the vessel below the rocks. Then comes the Santa Lucia range, with Cuesta Pass the main gateway to the broad Salinas valley, and the more northern pass up Old creek and over the Ascension or York grade. Of course there are other passes that the old-time desperadoes and cattle thieves knew how to use. Beyond the Salinas valley lies a region of plains, cañons and mountains. The San Juan, Huer-Huero and Estrella are the principal ranges. Along the southern boundary runs the Santa Maria river, a broad stretch of sand in summer and a roaring, unruly demon in winter, tossing bridges out of its way or cavorting out over the valley and inundating the lowlands.

The Huasna and Alamo are streams that water the cattle of the southern ranges and flow into the Santa Maria. The Salinas river rises in the south-



eastern portion of the county and flows northwesterly through this and Monterey counties into Monterey bay. A range of mountains forms our eastern boundary, and as a sample, Caliente mountain rises 5,095 feet into the clear dry air southeast of the Chimeneas ranch. Pine mountain, 3,600 feet, Coal peak, 3,500 feet, Cypress mountain and Black mountain are landmarks in the northwestern portion of the county. The Nacimientto river springs into life near Coal mountain and goes tumbling, splashing on its way, a home for trout and salmon, a drinking fountain for deer, and long ago for bears galore, until it joins the Salinas up in Monterey county. Such was and is the land that Cabrillo, Don Gaspar de Portola, Father Junipero Serra and his brothers traversed, and that Dana, Estrada, Price, Wilson, Branch, the Steeles, Cooks, Olmsteads, Murphys, Blackburns, Murrays, Hollisters, C. H. Phillips and all the others pioneered and opened up to development. To tell the story of much that befell them and the results they wrought, is now the task the writer begins.

---

## CHAPTER I

### The Spanish Quest for "El Dorado"

#### How Our State Got Its Name

When Columbus sailed from Spain in 1492, under the patronage of Isabella, he was under promise to himself to seek an ocean passage to India, and to the Spanish rulers, to seek for gold. "Loot," it mattered not how gotten, just so it poured treasure into the coffers of the king. Columbus took back no gold; but the stories of the Indians, of treasure to the westward, were sufficient to lure the adventurers on. Pizarro ravaged the Incas in Peru, destroyed their cities, took them captive and carried home vast amounts of gold, silver and precious vessels used in the worship of their gods. In 1520, Cortez climbed to the crest of a mountain in Mexico and looked upon the peaceful blue western sea, naming it Pacific. Yet the peace of the ocean did not deter him from following in Pizarro's wake. The ruler of the land, Montezuma, and his people met the fate of the Incas, and their hoards of treasure were taken by their conquerors. It is little wonder that by this time all the new world was regarded as one vast vault of riches, and that fabulous tales were told and written. One of these writers was Ordonez de Montalvo. In 1510 he published a book, *Ingas de Esplandian*, telling of a magic island where Amazons ruled and griffins guarded the wealth of the land. The young grandee, Esplandian, falls in love with the Amazon queen, Califa. Many battles take place between his followers and the dragon-like griffins. Because of their ability to sail around in the air, and because Ingas remembered his Greek, he called them "ornis" and his bride "Kalli" (beautiful), from the same language. Professor George Davidson, the translator, says that an "f" was inserted for euphony, and so we have the name of our glorious state, California, meaning "beautiful bird."

When Don Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo, in 1542, made his voyage to our coast, he had in mind the romance of Esplandian, and when he saw the

islands off the southern coast, he named them "Las Californias." Soon the name was applied to the Mexican peninsula, and later "Alta California" was that part which is now our state.

### Spanish Formalities in Taking Possession of the State

It has already been related how Cabrillo explored the coast of San Luis Obispo and named bays and Morro rock. After leaving San Simeon bay, he sailed on and entered Monterey bay, which he named the Bay of Pines. The following day he took formal possession. A large cross was erected under a great oak in a pleasant ravine, mass was said and the country claimed for Spain. Father Andreas thus describes the place: "Near the shores are an infinite number of pines, straight and smooth, fit for masts of ships, likewise oaks of a prodigious size for building ships. Here likewise are rose-trees, white-thorns, firs, willows and poplars, large clear lakes, fine pastures and arable lands." One likes to think that the great oak whose branches shade more than an acre of the grounds of Del Monte, was the oak under which mass was said by Cabrillo's priests. The description, however glowing, failed to convince Gaspar de Portola, one hundred sixty-seven years later, that he was in the bay he sought. Viscaino, in 1602, entered this bay and named it Monterey, in honor of the Viceroy of Mexico. Portola, recalling Father Andreas' description, went farther and discovered San Francisco bay; but more of that story later.

### Cabrillo

Cabrillo is said to have sailed as far north as Cape Mendocino, which he discovered on the last of February, 1543, and named Cabo de Fortunas, Cape of Perils. From there he returned to the island of San Miguel, off the coast of Santa Barbara, intending to winter there. Historians differ. The accepted theory is that he died there, January 5, 1543, and is buried on the island. Others say that he died in San Simeon bay and that his bones still rest in San Luis Obispo County. From a narrative written by Cabrillo, he was on Santa Rosa island, and he describes the Indians there as living in most wretched condition. "They are fishermen, they eat nothing but fish, they sleep on the ground, they go naked."

Of the Indians further up the coast he speaks quite differently. They seem to have had a form of government, to have been better fed, and the women partly clothed in garments of skins. He speaks of them as coming out from their villages in canoes to his ships, and of bartering trinkets of beads for food from the natives.

### Indians in San Luis Obispo County

A writer of this county during the earlier days was Charles H. Johnson. These items are taken from a lecture of his, and refer to the Indians when Governor Portola made his journey through this county in 1769.

"The Indians lived in the open, their only protection seeming to be stone corrals to save them from the bears. They were numerous and divided into tribes or rancherias. The men went naked. The women wore garments of skins. When game was scarce, they would squat in a circle and, each in turn, chew a piece of dried meat attached to a string. It would be masticated, swallowed, drawn up again and the performance repeated several times, then

passed to the next, and so on round the circle." It must have been a gamble to see who began on that meat. "They ate acorns, usually pounded to a meal in their stone mortars, and made into bread. If they lacked mortars, they sought a big flat rock and hollowed out places to pound the nuts in."

Towards the south end of Templeton, between the highway and the Salinas river, stands a group of big oak trees; and under them are great rocks showing the hollows where the Indians ground their meal. In 1887, the writer found there several pestles buried in the soft mold close to the hollowed rocks. Mortars of all sizes are or have been found all over the county, especially on the tree-covered hills and in the valleys.

In the old burying grounds used to be found beautiful arrowheads, spears, mortars and pestles, stone kettles, beads made from the claws of crabs and bear's teeth, ornaments of abalone shell, shark's and whale's teeth, hammers, and needles of bone. No metal whatever has been found in those ancient graves of San Luis Obispo. The Indians believed in the Great Spirit, and some tribes worshiped the sun. At Avila was an Indian graveyard, and out on the Huasna, on the John P. Black ranch, was a hillside cemetery. The Alamo school is on that ranch, and in 1902-3-4 two little boys, with their dogs and sticks, excavated many fine arrows, spearheads, beads, mortars and pestles. One of the neighboring ranchers used an Indian skull for a tobacco jar. The natives rapidly decreased after the advent of the white man, and in 1870 a census of the county showed one hundred thirty-seven Indians. Today there is not one full-blooded Indian in the county, and probably not one who would admit Indian ancestry.

### **Piedra Pintada, or Painted Rock**

On the western side of Carissa plains, a tract some twelve miles wide and sixty long, with the Diablo range of mountains to the east, is a remarkable reminder of an ancient race. Rising from this plain to a height of two hundred feet, and about one thousand feet in diameter at the base, is a great, isolated rock. On its eastern side, facing the rising sun, is a portal twenty feet wide leading to an oval-shaped chamber some two hundred twenty-five feet in length by one hundred twenty feet in its widest part. The floor seems to slope upwards from this portal. The walls on the west are one hundred forty feet high and the amphitheatre is open to the blue sky. A gallery has been hewn out of the solid rock walls and extends nearly around the great room. At the west end there seems to have been an altar.

All along this gallery, on the walls, are pictures painted by this lost race, no doubt depicting historical events, as did the hieroglyphics of the Egyptians. The colors used are red, white and black, and are very well preserved. The accepted opinion is that this was the temple of a race of sun worshipers. The rock is cone-shaped, of a hard, gray sandstone, yet not too hard to have been excavated by willing devotees. The ancient temple, once thronged with worshipers, has been used by various owners for a sheep corral and is said to have held four thousand sheep at a time. Vandal tourists have chipped away portions of these paintings. The late Myron Angel wrote a charming little book containing a legend of the ancient temple as told to Mr. Archibald McAllister by his Indian major-domo, Jose Sequatero; and if you would know more of this antique cathedral to the sun, read "The Painted Rock of California, a Legend, by Myron Angel." Similar paintings are found on

other rocks of the Carissa, and on the series of pyramidal peaks extending from San Luis mountain to Morro, and ending with Morro Rock. Mr. Angel advocated at least state protection for this temple of the plains, and only a few days ago the San Luis Obispo Tribune published an article urging that some steps be taken, as the rock is rapidly being defaced and spoiled by "tourists," those locusts of travel who will try to write their initials on the walls of heaven if they ever get there, and chip the golden streets for "souvenirs."

If this marvelous work of a race forever gone were in many countries, the authorities would protect it by law; but in our state it may be used for a sheep corral. Here is an object worthy of effort. Why not be looked after by the Native Sons of the state or by some of the women's clubs? It might be possible to get an appropriation from the state if someone would make the attempt. This "Piedra Pintada" may be as ancient as the pyramids of the Nile, and no doubt chronicles a story as old and possibly as interesting as ever the Rosetta stone unfolded.

---

## CHAPTER II

### The Founding of the Missions

From Cabrillo's time, 1542, to the founding of the mission at San Diego, in 1769, the world seems to have thought little of California, the "beautiful bird" of the Pacific coast. To be sure, Drake, in 1579, visited our shores, landed north of San Francisco bay, at Drake's bay, and claimed the country for England, naming it New Albion; but that, so far as the English went, seemed to end the matter. During this period the French had settled in Canada and planted colonies in the Mississippi valley. England had settled the thirteen colonies of the Atlantic coast.

In 1697, the Order of Jesus, the Jesuits, were given a license to enter the peninsula of Lower California and establish missions for the conversion of the Indians to the Catholic faith. The Lady of Loreto was chosen as the patroness, and the place they selected to reside in and begin their labors was called Loreto. They were to have all ecclesiastic, military and civil authority. For seventy years the Jesuits were undisturbed in their labors of founding missions and converting natives; but in 1767, Charles the Third of Spain, grown jealous of the political power of the Jesuits, determined to supplant them, and in April, 1767, issued a decree ordering their expulsion from all parts of his dominions. The Order of Dominicans was to have charge of the Lower California missions, and the Franciscans were to establish missions in Alta California.

Don Gaspar de Portola, governor of the province, was ordered to carry out the king's decree. Two expeditions, one by sea and one by land, were to proceed to San Diego bay and there establish the first mission in Alta California. Father Junipero Serra was made president of all the missions. Portola was in command of the land expedition. Father Francisco Palou accompanied Junipero Serra, and from his diary, first published in Mexico in 1787, many of the following facts are taken.

Both expeditions started from La Paz, and those going by sea arrived



PIEDRA PINTADA OR PAINTED ROCK



first. Father Serra was then well on in years; and having always traveled on foot, wearing only leathern sandals, was afflicted with painful sores. In time he became very lame, but to the end of his beautiful life he literally "walked the narrow way." On July 1, 1769, the land expedition reached San Diego and was joyfully greeted by those who had come by sea. The mission was founded there July 16, 1769.

Now comes a most interesting bit of our country's history. On July 14, two days before Father Serra performed the religious ceremonies founding San Diego mission, Don Gaspar de Portola, with a party numbering sixty-five in all, set out to re-discover Monterey bay. A pack train of mules carried provisions. With this company was Father Juan Crespi, and the following translation from his diary is given as being of much interest, though the willows do not grow on the hills now. But to a man traveling on foot, all the way from San Diego through the wilderness of 1769, to this county and on to San Francisco bay, no doubt it was all an uphill road. On the evening of September first, 1769, the party halted by a lake which Father Crespi called Laguna Granda de San Daniel. Now for Father Crespi's diary.

#### Translation of Diary Relating to Portola in San Luis Obispo County

Saturday, the 2d.—We set out from the Laguna at a quarter past eight, crossing the adjacent plain at a distance of two leagues; by the course that we followed, being toward the northwest, the remainder of the day's journey lay over mesas [table-lands] until we came to a watering place, which was a large laguna, circular in form, within a glade, some sand piles between it and the sea; all this dale is covered with rushes and "cat-tails," and is very swampy and wet. It lies from east to west. In the afternoon the soldiers went out to hunt bears, of which they had seen signs, and succeeded in shooting one, the animal measuring fourteen palms from the bottom of his feet to his head; he might have weighed more than fifteen arrobas [375 lbs.]. We tried the meat, and to me it seemed very palatable. Six gentiles [Indians] came to visit us, who live in two rancherias, which they say are not far distant. We gave to this lake the name of La Laguna de los Santos Martires.

Sunday, the 3d.—This day we rested to allow the scouts to search out a pass by which we might cross the sierra that we had in sight, and that we supposed extended down to the seashore. It seems to be the same range that we have seen upon our right ever since leaving San Diego; retiring in places, and again intruding upon the shore, and now is so close thereto as to cut us off from that course. Our stopping place was called El Oso Flaco [lean bear].

Monday, the 4th.—At half past six in the morning we started out, taking the road to the west, and crossing the sand-hills by the shortest route that our scouts were able to discover, it being only half a league to the beach. We came then to the shore, which we followed for about a league to the northwest, turning then to the east and crossing the sand-hills again to a narrow place, when we found ourselves on firm ground. For a league further we traveled, our course lying between two bodies of water. At the right lay a lagoon of fresh water, which rests against the sand dunes, and is by



them cut off from the sea; at the left we have an estero which enters this plain, and obliges us to make a detour to the northwest to pass it. Then taking the road to the north we entered the sierra through a glade covered with live-oaks, alders, willows, and other trees, and halted near a running stream covered with water cress. In all our course of more than four leagues we encountered but one little rancheria of Indians; but near our stopping-place we found an Indian settlement whose people came to visit us, bringing presents of fish and seeds, to which our Señor Comandante responded with some glass beads.

Tuesday, the 5th.—At half past six we left camp, following the valley [cañada] until it turns to the northwest, where we left it, taking to the high hills not far from the shore, our course being rough and painful with many ascents and descents, but happily the hills were well covered with oaks, live-oaks and willows. In one day's travel of two leagues we saw no Indians. We halted at night within a narrow valley encircled with high hills, with running water in plenty and abundance of grass for the animals. I named it La Cañada de Santa Elena, but it is known to the soldiers as La Cañada Angosta. It is  $35^{\circ} 30'$ .

Wednesday, the 6th.—This day was set apart for rest and to give opportunity for the explorers to lay out our future course.

Thursday, the 7th.—We left at half past six, passing over high hills for more than three leagues of our road, until we came to another vale, spacious, with many ponds of water, whose banks were so muddy as to prevent our horses from approaching to drink. We saw here troops of bears which have ploughed up the soil and dug pits in their search for roots, which are their food, as also the support of the Indians, who feast upon such roots as are of good flavor. The soldiers went out to hunt the bears and succeeded in killing one of them by shooting, after gaining some experience as to the animal's fierceness. Upon feeling itself wounded the animal rushes to attack the hunter, who is only able to escape by his horse's fleetness, the bear never submitting until he receives a shot in the head or heart. The one they killed received nine bullets before he fell, only succumbing to one in the head. Other soldiers had the recklessness to ride up to one of these bears while mounted on poor saddle mules; they then gave him seven or eight shots and supposed he was dead; but he arose and crippled two mules, whose riders only escaped by a scratch. This cañada was named by the party de Los Osos, but I called it Cañada de la Natividad de Nuestra Señora.

Friday, the 8th.—This morning after saying mass on this great day of the Mother of our Lord's nativity, we set out, following the same cañada westward to the sea, meeting on our way some impediments because of deep water-courses whose banks it was necessary to cut down to permit of our pack-train passing; after two leagues we halted upon a hill within sight of the sea, and near a rivulet of good water, upon which grew water-cress. It is a pleasant locality, with many trees and good pastures. Not far from our camp was a band of Indians who seemed to be traveling, for we saw no house; there might have been seventy souls who came to visit us, presenting us with a sort of pinole, made of parched seeds and resembling almonds in

its taste; to this the Governor responded with beads and they left very joyfully.

There enters in this cañada at its southern side an estero of immense capacity, that seems to us to be a port; its mouth is open to the southwest, and we observed that it was covered with reefs that occasioned furious breakers; a little distance further to the north we saw a great rock that had the shape of a dome, and that at high water is isolated and separated from the coast little less than a musket-shot. From the morro the shore makes to the west and northwest as far as a point of land which we made out cut off from the sea, and between this and another point of the sierra that we left behind, the coast forms a great bight, with shelter from the winds of the south-south-east and west; but it is necessary to examine the anchorage. We named the place La Cañada de San Adriano. [This describes Morro bay and Cayucos bay.]

Saturday, the 9th.—About 6 o'clock of the morning we went out, taking the route towards the northwest, traveling over mesas of fertile land, treeless but covered with grass, and after four hours of journeying, during which we went about three leagues and crossed eight rivulets [arroyos] which run from the mountains to the sea, we halted at the last of these within a glen of moderate breadth, through which runs a stream which terminates in an estero that enters the lower end of the valley or glen. The hills which surround this valley reach to the sea on the west, and prevent our progress along the shore, but leave a free passage to the north and northwest. The party named this place El Estero de Santa Serafina.

Sunday, the 10th.—After having said mass and hearing all the soldiers, we started out this pleasant morning and took the north-northwest branch of the cañada and traveled along it for a space of two hours and a half, traveling two good leagues. We then left it, as we saw that it turned to the north, where we discovered a mountainous region covered with pines and surrounding a cañon of great depth whose sides were thickly clothed with willows, poplars and other trees. Pursuing our route we encountered a large creek, by whose banks we made our halt for the night, high above the cañada. There came to visit us some seventy gentiles of a rancheria which was not far from us. They presented us with bowls of pinole, for which we returned beads. They brought and offered to us a bear cub, which they had bred up; but we refused it.

Monday, the 11th.—This morning, which dawned very cloudy, we left our camping place, and traveling down to the seashore followed the beach to the northwest. We traveled an hour and a half over an easy route, well provided with streams of good water, then halting by a steep rock in a small valley where runs a rivulet I named El Arroyo de San Nicolas, but the soldiers called it El Cantel. There is abundance of grass and wood.

Tuesday, the 12th.—At half past six we started out, following the seashore, for the higher lands were extremely broken and rough. Our road abounded with rivulets and creeks whose washed-out channels gave us much trouble, as a great deal of labor had to be expended in creating a passage for the beasts of burden. We came to a point of land that extends into the sea, and then leaving this to the left we entered a narrow gorge opening from the sierra and followed it toward the north-northeast, traversing various valleys and-streams during a journey of three hours, in which we came two

leagues, encountering two watering-places on our way. We halted on a hill beside a very deep cañon where there is a pool of water. Apart from us there was a rancheria of Indians, six of whom came to visit us. I named the stream in the cañon after San Vicente.

Wednesday, the 13th.—We left camp at half past six in the morning, taking a course to the northwest, part traveling by the cañada and part by the high table-lands to the seashore, along which the remainder of our two leagues of travel lay. We halted by two rivulets where there was plenty of grass and wood. There came to visit us six of the inhabitants of a rancheria which was not far distant, and at midday they regaled us with presents of pine in their bowls and some good fresh fish, the Comandante responding as usual, with beads, to the joy of the natives. We had in the front the very high and rough sierra, thickly covered with pines, that seems to be the Sierra de Pinos or Sierra de Santa Lucia [a landmark by which they expected to find the bay of Monterey], and its roughness would seem to debar us from crossing the range; accordingly our commander halted us for some days in this place, in order to give opportunity for the scouts to explore the surrounding region. I named this place Los Arroyos de Santa Hunuliana.

Here is the record of the first white men, save Cabrillo's, who traversed our county. They are easily traced from the laguna at Guadalupe over the sand hills to Pismo and Arroyo Grande, the Los Osos, Morro Rock, the treeless hills of Cayucos, and on up over the difficult mountains of the northern part into Monterey county and on to Monterey bay, which Portola either did not recognize or did not want to, for he forced his men on and at last, going via what is now San Jose, came out upon the shores of the long-sought inland bay; and so to Portola belongs the honor of discovering San Francisco bay. The party returned to San Diego, reaching there January 24, 1770, six months and ten days from the time of departure.

### Manner of Founding a Mission

After a place had been selected for the founding of a mission, possession was taken in the name of the King of Spain. A tent or arbor, sometimes only a spreading oak, took the place of a church, and such adornments as were possible were hung up. Then a Father in his robes blessed the place and sprinkled all with holy water. The cross was erected, after being adored by all, and a saint was named as patron of the mission. Candles were lighted and a bell suspended from a tree was rung, to call the gentiles (Indians) to the ceremony. Mass was said, a priest placed in charge, and the work of converting the Indians began. Writers differ as to the treatment of the neophytes or converted Indians. Some say that the priests treated them as slaves, using cruelty to compel them to stay at the missions and work, and that if they "jumped their job," soldiers were sent to drive them in. On the other hand, it is contended that the Indians were always well treated, and loved the Fathers and the missions. No doubt there were good and bad priests, as there are good and bad men in every walk of life. Zeal for the church, and later, when it was found what vast wealth could be accumulated by the Indians labor on the missions, lust for power and wealth undoubtedly found votaries among the priests, for priests are just plain humans unless vitalized by the spirit of God to something akin to angels. Such men as

Junipero Serra and others of those brave old Franciscans surely "walked with God."

The Indians came into the missions by thousands. They were fed, clothed and cared for, always sure of food, far more than they received from a life in the wilds; and work is good, even for "Lo" and his family. The devotion of the majority of the Fathers to their charges far outweighs the hardships imposed by a few in power. Romance has woven a spell about those years of mission life, and only a vandal would dispel the charm.

### Construction of the Missions

The Fathers taught the Indians to make bricks of adobe, and the walls were made of these sun-dried bricks. The heavy timbers were hewn and hauled, often long distances, and bound in place with thongs of rawhide. At first thatch was used for roofs; but experiences with fire soon drove the Fathers to having the beautiful red tiles made that are seen yet in perfection in several places, and that California millionaires are fond of roofing their mansions with.

More than twenty years ago the tiles from the old adobe Blackburn ranch house, just south of Templeton, were sold to help roof the mission station at Burlingame, where the rich Englishmen and their followers disport themselves in polo and golf games out of doors, and live in beautiful homes when not in the open.

Rude spikes were made by the Indian blacksmiths and used where thongs would not do. So familiar is the mission style of architecture that it is needless to describe it. The open court, the long, pillared corridors, the tiled roof, the square towers lend dignity and beauty to the picture. It is a pity that cheap wooden structures ever attempt to be "mission." They are never anything but ridiculous mistakes. The Santa Barbara and Santa Ynez missions are very fine examples of the beauty of real mission style; and so was our own mission of San Luis Obispo until, after years of neglect, friends attempted to save it; but its chief beauty, the old corridor, is gone. The picture seen in the history shows what it once was.

The Fathers journeyed up the coast as far as San Francisco bay, and as they went chose sites for their missions. Always there was an abundance of water close at hand, trees for timbers, and often a possible seaport, with leagues of rich land back of it, or a great valley to pasture the flocks and herds. Beauty was never forgotten, and a mission was never built that did not face a glorious view. Visit the old missions and see the panoramas of beautiful mountains, rolling hills, broad valleys dotted with magnificent oaks, streams whose banks are fringed with alder, willow, giant sycamores and a hundred other varieties of spicy fragrance stretching like dappled green ribbons away to the sea. Or else, as at Santa Barbara and Monterey, the mission faces the bay and the mountains form the background. No limit seems to have been set as to the land each mission might own, just so it did not overlap that claimed by another.

### Founding of San Luis Obispo de Tolosa

Father Junipero Serra was on a return journey from Monterey to San Diego, where he went to confer with the authorities, and stopped to found the mission of San Luis Obispo de Tolosa, the fifth in order of establish-

ment. He brought with him Fray Jose Caballar from San Antonio Mission to assist in the ceremonies. They killed bear on the Los Osos for food, and this pleased the Indians.

The party arrived August 19, 1772, but the ceremonies of founding were not performed until September 1, 1772. While a mission here had been settled upon, the intervening days were spent in deciding the exact location, and the present site on the north bank of San Luis creek was chosen. The Fathers blessed and put in place the holy cross. A bell was suspended from a branch of a large sycamore on the edge of the creek. After ringing it for some time to attract the attention of the Indians, a priest advanced towards the wondering Indians, crying out, "Ea, gentiles, venid, venid, á la Santa Iglesia, venid, venid, á recibir la fé de Jesu Cristo." (O gentiles, come ye, come ye to the holy church. Come, come and receive the faith of Jesus Christ.") Mass was then sung to the multitude, though they understood not a word. Thus was founded San Luis Obispo de Tolosa Mission, destined to become the richest of all the missions, and in spite of the hand of man to continue a place consecrated to the religion of "Jesu Cristo" unto the present day, and in all probability for centuries to come.

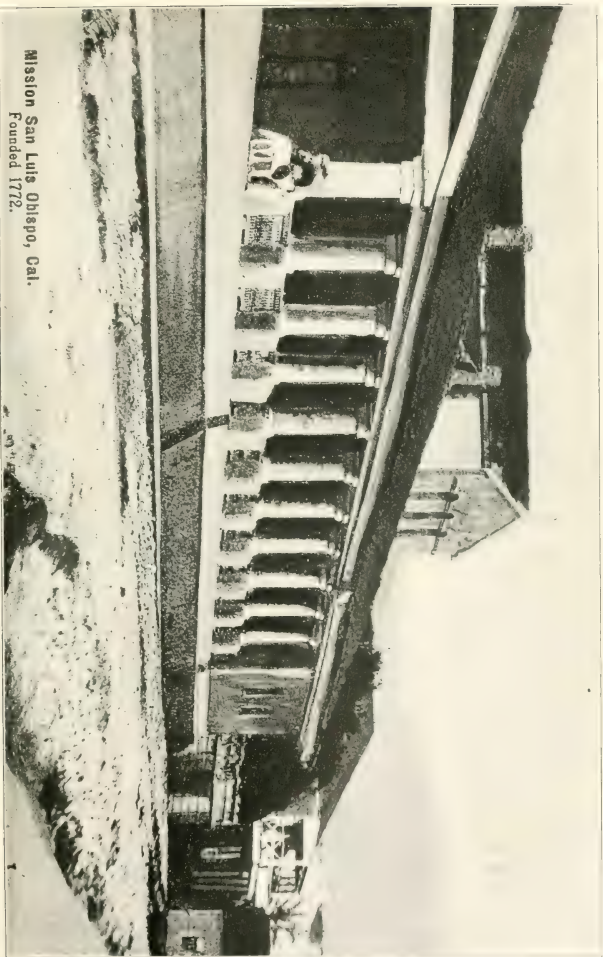
The erection of buildings began in 1773, and passed from simple to fine proportions as the wealth and population of the mission increased, reaching its zenith some years before the secularization. Schools were established, orchards and vineyards were planted, vast areas were sown to grain and wealth flowed into the mission coffers. A great storehouse was built at Santa Margarita, one hundred ninety feet long, and some say a chapel also. The storehouses were never emptied. The Fathers always kept a reserve to offset the lean years when the drought came upon the land. A launch was built and carried grain, hides and tallow to Santa Barbara. The Indians were housed in rows of small adobe buildings. They were taught many of the ruder arts of civilization. Those musically inclined were taught singing, and to play the violin and a sort of rude organ. They were clothed and well fed. With its red-tiled roofs, whitewashed walls and beautiful setting, the mission was a wonderful sight to all beholders. Its hospitality was unbounded.

Many are the tales told of when a cavalcade of visitors arrived and stayed for days. Often it was a bridal party from the south bound for Monterey; and to entertain a bride on one occasion, all the poultry was assorted over night and in the morning driven past the church for her delight. It was a comical procession, and the newly-made Señora was vastly amused.

### Wealth of the Mission

Each mission, when founded, received a quota of cattle, sheep, horses and mules. All the stock was propagated from animals originally brought from Spain. From some that escaped came the herds of wild horses and cattle that once roamed the western plains and valleys. The vestments, altar service and adornments were magnificent, and in the treasure chests

of this mission about 1828 this is taken. Remember the padres were wise; the streams were used to irrigate the orchards and vineyards. 7000 head of cattle, 8,700 head; 2,000 tame



Mission San Luis Obispo, Cal.  
Founded 1772.



horses; 3,500 mares; 3,700 mules; 7,200 sheep." In 1827 the major-domo scattered on the ground one hundred twenty bushels of wheat and scratched it in with wooden "harrows." There was no plowing. From this he harvested 7,000 bushels of wheat. The priest then in charge, Luis Martinez, returned to Spain in 1828 and carried with him \$100,000 as the fruits of his ranching. Possibly not all this wealth was gathered from agriculture and grazing. There are stories of rich mines that once yielded up their treasures. It is said that a priest once came from Spain with a map to locate a mine near San Luis Obispo; and in the Arroyo Grande regions old furnaces have been found. Not many years since, two men searched in the mountains between here and Santa Margarita for the "lost mines."

It is more than likely, if ever such mines existed, that the angered priests caused all trace of them to be destroyed when the act of secularization of 1833 went into force.

### Later History of the Mission

After the flocks and herds were taken, the land was given to the hated "Gringos" or the Spanish favorites. The Indians were scattered and the priests in anger left the missions. The buildings rapidly passed from glory and riches to poverty and decay. Volumes have been written on this subject, but the story here must be brief. Often the orchards were destroyed, and the vessels of the Church buried or hidden with some faithful family in the hope that some day the vast possessions of the Church would be restored.

Mission San Luis Obispo was claimed by John Wilson by right of purchase, but eventually 52.72 acres was deeded to the Church, and in 1874 the portion south of the creek was laid out in town lots and sold. For almost forty years after the secularization act of 1833, the mission was used by the public. In it rooms were used for jails, courts, barracks, saloons, schools, hotels, stores, restaurants and dwellings. It fell rapidly into a dilapidated condition, but strange as it may seem, through almost forty years of desolation its holy vessels, its interior treasures, remained untouched.

The devoted Junipero Serra had spent fifty-three years of his life in his Master's service in the New World. Feeling the end near, he retired to the Mission Carmel at Monterey and went to his reward August 29, 1784, aged seventy-one years. Perhaps the Master he had served so well gave his spirit charge of this beloved mission, and the holy things were not profaned. In 1847 the mission was repaired, as it was liable, under the change of government then taking place, to become very valuable. John Wilson claimed it still, but Father Gomez maintained possession of the chapel. In 1880 it was thoroughly renovated, and the once beautiful old corridor removed. Ever since then the building has been at times repaired, and the historic edifice is now the chief attraction for visiting tourists.

### San Miguel Mission

This mission was founded July 25, 1797, and is the sixteenth one established. San Miguel Archangel stands upon the west side of the Salinas river near the junction of the Estrella, and amid leagues of fine land formerly used for grazing but now devoted to ranching. Great trees flit the valley, and in mission days vast herds roamed the pastures. It is forty miles north of San Luis Obispo and four miles south of the northern town.



dary of the county. The mission became very prosperous, at one time owning 91,000 cattle, 1,100 tame horses, 3,000 mares, 2,000 mules, 340 oxen and 47,000 sheep. It claimed 6,000 Indian converts, and soldiers, priests and other whites necessary to manage such vast estates. Ranchos San Marcos and Paso Robles were the chief tracts cultivated. Wheat and beans were raised. Fine gardens and orchards surrounded the building and a great wall enclosed them.

The old church seems almost indestructible. It stands facing the east, and to the south a wing extends, once 490 feet long. Most of this is now in ruins. The church itself is 230 feet by 44 feet, and 45 feet to the eaves. The walls are seven feet thick. The roof is of tiles, in fine state of preservation. The inside is frescoed, and the colors are still good. The altar stands at the west end, guarded by its patron saint, Michael the Archangel, with extended sword. The floor is of tiles or brick.

Through all its vicissitudes the beautiful vestments and altar service have been retained, and about the old building within its broken walls hangs a brooding silence. Services are held in the church, and the faithful are still buried in its consecrated ground. Blankets were woven here by the Indians. Water from the Santa Ysabel springs was carried by ditches to the mission, a distance of nearly fifteen miles. Out of its possessions six great grants were made, totaling 116,945 acres. These will be mentioned in the chapter devoted to the land grants. The faithful Father Farrelly did much to restore the mission in the eighties and nineties. Rev. Fr. Nevin has charge of the mission at the present time, and has labored zealously to restore the church.

### Relics of the Mission Days

The furnaces found about Arroyo Grande valley have already been mentioned. On the Santa Ysabel ranch are remains of the old dams and irrigation ditches that used to carry the water from the great springs there to the San Miguel Mission orchards and fields. About five miles south of San Luis Obispo is the Corral de Piedra (stone corral). This region takes its name from the stone corrals built by the mission Indians in the days when they lived, to the number of six hundred or more, in the San Luis Mission. Some years ago one of these corrals was taken down and built up again to form the boundary line between the ranch owned by Mrs. C. I. Thompson and that of David Mitchell. The wall is all of three-fourths of a mile long, about three and one-half feet high and two and one-half feet wide. On the Miossi ranch, three miles further towards the ocean, is another long wall, probably a part of some big corral. This used to be known as the Cavitas (cave) from the caves in the rocks. In the city of San Luis Obispo are some giant olive and pepper trees of the old mission gardens, still a joy to the living and monuments to the devoted souls who planted them.

San Luis Obispo Mission was the first one to have a tiled roof. The Tulare Indians had been accustomed to make trips to this section for game, as the Carissa plains swarmed with deer and elk, and the coast region with bears; so much so that Portola's soldiers' names, Oso Flaco (lean bear) and Los Osos (the bears), were so appropriate no one has ever troubled to change them. In 1775, three years after the founding of the mission, a marauding band of Tulare Indians attacked the San Luis Mission in the night, firing lighted arrows into the thatched roofs of the buildings. The roofs ignited and

much damage resulted. Then tiles were made, and all repaired buildings and new ones were tile-roofed. San Miguel suffered from Indian attacks, and during its years of misfortune after secularization, was the scene of awful crimes. These will be related in another chapter.

## CHAPTER III

### California During the Mexican Revolt

While the missions were growing in wealth and the conditions of the Indians happy or otherwise, everything depending on the priests in charge, Mexico was having troublous times. From the conquest of Cortez, Mexico had been a dependency of Spain, and her country and people made to disgorge wealth to fill the Spanish treasury. The government was tyrannical, and all were tired of it, but no one arose against it until Father Hidalgo, on September 16, 1810, with a small number of followers, revolted against the rule of Spain. In 1822, Mexican independence was acknowledged, and in 1824 a republican form of government was adopted. During these years of revolution in Mexico, California remained in peace under her Spanish governors, with only a ripple or two to disturb the even tenor. The Mexicans had executed Iturbide when he came back from his exile in Italy in 1824 with the hope of being reinstated Emperor of Mexico. The news of this reached the Indians at the missions, and they proceeded to inaugurate a little civil service reform of their own.

The chief of the San Diego Indians was not a popular official, so they proceeded to burn him at the stake and celebrated with a week's feast. When the priest rebuked them for the deed, they cited the fate of Iturbide, saying, "Have you not done the same in Mexico? You say your king was not good; well, our captain was not good, so we burned him, and if the new one shall be bad, we will burn him also." This order of making officials good might be still practiced with splendid results.

At Santa Ynez, in 1822, the Indians revolted. Two priests were in charge and one of them was cruelly put to death; the other, a powerful man, escaped to the guard-house, where four soldiers, under a corporal, were always kept as a sort of police force. The Indians shot showers of arrows and the guard were demoralized, when the priest himself took command. The shaven head, the sandaled feet, gray gown and cord of St. Francis did not prevent the priest from showing the man and using carnal weapons.

"Ho, Father," shouted a young Indian, "is that the way to say mass?" "Yes, I am saying mass, my son. Here [holding up the cartridge box] is the chalice, here [showing his carbine] is the crucifix, and here goes my benediction to you, you —," using a foul epithet as he fired, killing the tormentor.

A sufficient force was at last collected from the other settlements, the Indian converts were followed to the Tulare valley, the ringleaders were shot, and the rest forced to return to the missions. The president of the missions thought fit to punish the violent priest for using strong language, so his clerical orders were revoked for a year and he was sent to live at San Luis Obispo Mission during his punishment. A friend stopping at the mission

rallied him on his plight, and he replied, "The old fool thinks he is punishing me. Here I have no mass to say, and nothing to do but eat and drink. He knew I was a soldier before I was a priest. When those accursed Indians drove me back to my old trade, how could I help using my old language?"

When Mexico became independent, California followed suit. In 1822, the Spanish governor, Don Pablo Vicente de Sola, and others at Monterey issued a declaration of independence of Spain and took oath of allegiance to the new power, Mexico. The heads of the military and church authorities joined with the civil authorities, and Governor De Sola held his office for a year under the new government.

### Beginning of the End

The new government at once began steps to supersede ecclesiastical power with secular authority. It was contended that the missions had failed to civilize the Indians. Over fifty years had passed, and Christianity had apparently little hold on the natives. The power of the priests and the vast wealth of the missions were coveted by the secular authorities, so steps were taken to bring the priests under control. In 1824 and 1826, the Mexican government passed laws suspending the pay of the priests and releasing all Indians from slavery. This act was premature; for the Indians, having learned all the vices of the white man and few of his virtues, "took to the woods," robbing and stealing. Cattle were run off by the hundreds into the hills and cañons. The existence of the settlements was threatened by lawless deeds. The law was repealed, and many of the Indians were induced to return to the missions. Things went on about as before for a while.

A vicious element of discharged soldiers had come to California from Mexico. They incited the Indians to insurrection, and led all sorts of outrages. Manuel Victoria was appointed to put down this criminal element and punished a few as they deserved, but there were those who claimed the colonists were being abused. Open hostility broke out, and Jose Maria Avila led the outbreak which began at San Diego. Victoria's friends put Avila in irons and waited for the next move. Governor Victoria left Monterey and reached San Fernando, near Los Angeles, December 4, 1831. A party of the opposing forces reached Los Angeles the same evening, and Avila was released, swearing he would kill Victoria. He led his followers to Cahuenga Pass, about eight miles west of the city, and the parties halted for a parley; but Avila rushed upon Victoria and wounded him in the side. Romualdo Pacheco parried the thrust, but before he recovered his guard he was run through by Avila. Victoria drew his pistol, shooting Avila, who fell from his horse at the same instant Pacheco dropped from his.

The Mexican forces went to the San Gabriel Mission, while those under Avila, calling themselves Californians, went back to Los Angeles. Victoria resigned as governor and returned to Mexico, January 15, 1832. The bodies of the slain were taken to the town and buried side by side. Now followed confusion, some adhering to Victoria as governor; but finally Pio Pico was declared governor, ad interim, and Los Angeles the capitol de facto. General Jose Figueroa arrived in 1833 and some degree of order was restored.

### The Act of Secularization

In 1833 the secularization act was enacted. In 1834 the governor began to enforce it, or at least issued orders for its enforcement. This act sought

to do away with the supreme power of the priests, to release the lands held by the missions for settlement, and to put the missions on the same footing as the parish churches. The rules issued in 1834, to take effect in August, 1835, were designed to do justice to all. In fact, they were these: To each head of a family and all who were more than twenty years old, though without families, a plot of ground not more than three hundred yards square nor less than one hundred yards square was to be given from the mission lands. Sufficient land in common was to be set aside for watering the cattle. Villages with roads were to be established and corporation lands designated. Half of the movable property of the missions was to be distributed to the Indians, and one-half of the seeds and roots and one-half of all implements indispensable for agriculture. The other half of all property mentioned was to be in the care of an agent, or steward, named by the supreme government, and from the common mass of property, the expenses of missionary work, the stewards, churches, schools, cleanliness and health were to be met.

The missionary priest was to select the place he desired for his residence and for his servants' houses. They were to be fully furnished for him. The vestment, library and furniture of the church were to be under the care of a sexton chosen by the priest. The sexton was held responsible for the property in his care, and a salary was to be paid him by the proper government official.

Inventories of all the property of each mission, lists of all books, papers, charges with dates and descriptions of the credits, liquidated or otherwise, with their respective marks and explanations, were required to be made to the supreme government. Laws were made for governing the villages. The emancipated Indians were required to assist in the care of the vineyards, and other things maintained for the public good. The Indians were not allowed to sell or mortgage the lands or cattle; if they did so, the cattle, lands, etc., were seized by the government, and the purchaser forfeited his money. The political chief settled all disputes, and appointed those necessary to carry out the laws of secularization. The priests were ordered to hand over to the commissioners all books of accounts, all houses, churches, workshops, utensils and furniture, save that belonging to the homestead. The stock was estimated by two responsible parties; for so vast was the number, and so few the horses that could be ridden for a general round-up, that an actual count was out of the question.

It was during these years of trouble that the great land grants were made. It was urged that so much land was not needed for the mission herds, and many an enterprising "Gringo" became a naturalized Mexican citizen, married a Spanish or Mexican woman, and shared in the lands wrung from the missions. The Fathers were in no position to resent this, nor should they have held such vast tracts longer; but it was a bitter experience for them. Influential families were given vast grants, and it was no trick at all to stock them from the mission herds running at large.

#### The End of Mission Rule

Abandoned by the Mexican government and plundered by the Californians, ruin faced the missions. The priests again showed their purely human side (no discredit to them) and began slaughtering the cattle for their hides and tallow. One-half the hides were given for killing and skinning, and the plains reeked with decaying carcasses. Over all hovered the vultures of the

sky, and in the background rapacious human vultures; for often the lowest passions, lust for wealth, and lust of women, were no little factors in the transaction.

The writer knew a man, rich and influential, who got a great tract of rich Sacramento valley land along with his Mexican (half-breed Indian) wife. She bore him two daughters and a son. He divorced or set aside the Mexican wife and married a woman from a prominent family. There was some illegality somewhere; for in 1884 he adopted his own son in order to make him a legal heir to his own mother's land. However, the son inherited the bad traits of both sides of his ancestry; for he gambled and drank away his patrimony. Fourteen years later he was seen squatting on the streets of his native town, a fat, greasy "Injun," begging a drink or tobacco from men he once called his equals.

The Indians who once lived at the missions and looked upon the cattle as theirs, stole all they could. Bands of Indians from Mojave, the San Joaquin plains, and even from Oregon and the Rockies, raided the rich coast ranches. As late as 1840, "Peg Leg Smith," a noted scout, led a band of Indians from the Bear river in California and drove off seventeen hundred head of horses. This continued more or less until the Americans came in sufficient force to put a stop to it.

Governor Figueroa, worn out and disgusted with the rapacity and dishonesty of the people, died September 29, 1835. Then he was lauded and called "The Father of California." His remains were carried in a vessel from Monterey to Santa Barbara, and buried in a vault at the mission, with all the honors due him.

Slowly but surely the secularization of the missions went on and by 1845 utter devastation marked some of them, while poverty stalked through the deserted rooms and down the long, pillared corridors of the rest. The historian may only repeat the facts as gleaned from ancient diaries, old books and the best written records, but the poet and the artist have idealized, and will continue to idealize, the mission days, throwing about them all a halo of religious zeal, romantic loves and valorous deeds. As such, the writer likes best to think of them.

---

## CHAPTER IV

### The American Conquest

From San Diego to San Francisco the people were almost entirely Spanish. There were two classes: those who were pure Castilian, very careful to remain so, and the Mexicans. These were of all degrees, both in color and in their claim to Spanish blood, a race produced by the intermarriage of Spanish and Indian parents. The least claim to a Spanish ancestor was a mark of dignity, and kept the individual apart from the Indians, both in social standing and in clothes. Some people still adhere to the belief that clothes and caste are synonymous. The pure Castilians spoke Spanish beautifully, were of fair complexion, often even blonde, and avoided marrying outside their class. The Mexicans spoke a mixture of Spanish and Indian words probably quite dif-

ferent from the speech of the superior class who were the rulers, socially and otherwise.

The grandees lived at Los Angeles, Santa Barbara and Monterey or on the great ranches, where an almost feudal style of living existed. Countless Indians and Mexicans did the work indoors or out. Cattle were the only things raised for an income, though each ranch owned hundreds of horses, some saddle animals being very beautiful, and all capable of fleetness and endurance. The men were often handsome and dressed well; and the women, in many cases extremely lovely, dressed in silks, laces and dainty muslins when attending the numerous fandangoes. Dancing, horse racing and bull fighting were the main amusements. Hospitality was unbounded. Often a cavalcade of men and women all mounted on fine horses, the men with silver- or gold-trimmed sombreros, saddle and spurs, would go on a visit to one ranch, then to the next, and remain a week at each, feasting, dancing and enjoying the gay, easy life. Weddings were great events. If you want to know more about these days, read Dana's "Two Years before the Mast," and Atherton's "Splendid Idle Forties."

North of San Francisco and to the east, Americans were coming in rapidly; and John A. Sutter, the wealthy, ambitious Swiss, was gathering about him a band of daring men. He dreamed of a new Helvetia and himself its leader. That portion of California now embraced in the County of San Luis Obispo was sparsely settled. Around the missions clung a few Mexicans and Indians after the secularization took away their glory. Captain John Wilson was the wealthiest man in the county in 1850. His taxes were \$639.20. He owned the Los Osos, Pecho, Chorro and other ranches; and it will be remembered that at one time he claimed the San Luis Mission. He was a Scotchman, a sea captain, coming from Peru in 1830. He married Doña Ramona Pacheco, widow of Don Romualdo Pacheco, killed by Avila near Los Angeles, as has already been related. She was the mother of Governor Pacheco. Captain Wilson died at San Luis Obispo in 1860.

Other prominent families of those early days were the Pico, Estrada, Villavicencio, Olivera, Canet, Cantua, Linares, Boronda, Avila, Sparks, Branch, Dana, Garcia, Narvaez and Bonilla families, and probably a few others. These families all obtained grants which will be more particularly spoken of elsewhere. The roads were merely trails leading from one ranch to another, and from mission to mission. Everyone rode horseback. The carreta was a two-wheeled cart—the wheels, sections of logs sawed off—the whole rudely bound together with thongs of rawhide. To go joy-riding in a carreta was surely an experience.

The story is told of how once upon a time a set of society belles and matrons set out from San Luis Obispo, escorted by their cavaliers on horseback, to attend a fandango given by a valiant dame at Avila. Her spouse was opposed to balls and giddy goings-on, so she got him safely locked in his room early in the evening. The carretas, with all aboard, tried to cross San Luis creek. The tide had backed up and the carretas were swamped. The stiffly starched, voluminous petticoats of the ladies hung limp and dripping when they were at last carried out the rest of the way on horseback. All save one. This wise señorita caught up over her shoulders all but one of her skirts, and had only to slip off the wet one and go to dancing, while all the

others had to dry theirs or be fitted out by the hostess before they could trip a step. No need to say who was the belle of that ball.

Julian Estrada owned the Santa Rosa rancho. This story is told by the son of Rufus Burnett Olmstead, the first American who settled in Green valley. He came there in 1860, taking possession of land claimed by Estrada. The government survey was soon made, and Mr. Olmstead got legal possession of his land. Don Julian liked to do things up with eclat, so when he paid social calls on the neighbors he went in state, dressed in all the grandeur of his station as master of the rancho. Before him galloped Indian outriders on their ponies, and a guard followed, each displaying all the horsemanship he could. When guests were to be entertained, the don had a bear lassoed, and a bear and bull fight took place. Mr. Olmstead says the bear would be tied to a great oak tree, and several bulls driven up; then the bear would be loosened and the fight was on. Hard on the four-legged animals, but no doubt pleasing to the onlookers.

Joaquin Estrada owned the Santa Margarita ranch, and it was his enterprise that brought the first circus to the county. The circus had appeared at Santa Barbara, the writer was told, and Don Joaquin hired the outfit to come to his ranch. He invited the people from all directions and all distances, and entertained them for two weeks with a circus every afternoon, dancing in the evening, and feasting all the time. No matter just where the circus came from, it is certain it was there for two weeks, and more than one old man remembers hearing his elders tell of the time when they went to a circus for two weeks at a stretch.

A rancheria of about seventy-five Indians lived in Green valley just about where the Olmstead schoolhouse now stands. Smallpox got in among them, and all but three died. They knew only one mode of treatment for all ills. They would build a great fire and dance and leap in its heat until the perspiration was streaming from every pore, then rush into a swimming-hole they had in the creek. It is no wonder that but three were left after they had taken this "nature cure."

Mr. Olmstead, the pioneer of Green valley, raised some very fine water-melons. Wishing to be neighborly, he invited Don Julian Estrada up to help enjoy them. He came in all his state, and as a return favor arranged a bear and bull fight in honor of Mr. Olmstead. His son, now an old man living in Santa Cruz, says the Indians of the rancheria used to find both food and pleasure shooting rats, probably the big wood rats common in the hills. Just below where the James Taylor house now stands was a low, swampy place. After a storm the rats to the number of hundreds would take to the trees; and as a boy he watched the Indians shoot them with their bows and arrows.

In Green valley there were no other Americans living save the Olmstead family. Guadalupe Graciola, a Spaniard, lived in the valley. Jerry Johnson, James Buffum and Hardy were "baching" in a little cabin on Santa Rosa creek. At the time, the Mathers lived near Rocky Butte, back of where Cambria now is, and the Leffingwells lived up in the pines above the site of the present town. They started a sawmill there, and ran it by horsepower. Rufus B. Olmstead was justice of the peace in Green valley. Many cattle thieves were haled before him; but to prove their guilt was impossible.

Fear of the thieves or their kin closed the mouths of those who could have proven their misdeeds.

Boats stopped at Santa Barbara and Monterey, but only very occasionally at our port, and as there was no wharf, passengers and freight were ferried out or back in rowboats or scaled the cliffs by rope ladders. There was almost no money; hides and tallow were traded for rations, silks, laces and broadcloth. The food was mostly what the ranchers produced. The wheat pounded by Indians in mortars made the bread, tortillas. Frijoles, red peppers, garlic or onions were raised in the gardens; the cattle and sheep furnished abundance of excellent meats; the fruit trees, especially pears, furnished preserves for great occasions; and there were often thrifty grapevines.

After Figueroa's death in 1835, three men, Jose Castro, Nicola Guterrez and Marino Chico, held the office in turn until Juan B. Alvarado was appointed in 1836. He continued governor until December, 1842. Then Manuel Micheltorena served from December, 1842, to February, 1845, when Pio Pico took the office and held it to the American conquest in 1847.

As soon as the mission lands were known to be available, Americans came into Southern California. They married Spanish or Mexican women, and to all intents and purposes were Spanish. The Americans north and east of San Francisco bay cared little for the Spanish. Their interests were purely personal. They were in California for gain, for the enjoyment of its climate and scenic beauties, much as they are today. The "Californians" then meant those of pure or mixed Spanish blood and those naturalized Mexican citizens who were once Americans or of other nationalities.

## THE CONQUEST

The Mexican government had resented the indifference or open disregard of the Californians for the parental rule; and taking advantage of the jealousies and quarrelings of those in authority in the province of Alta California, started in to pay up old scores. Santa Anna had risen to be the head of the Mexican government. In February, 1842, he ordered an army of three hundred convicts and about one hundred fifty others to be sent to California under Micheltorena, who was also appointed governor. He arrived in San Diego in August, and as a new governor meant feasting, balls, bull-fights and general hilarity, he was joyfully received. He started northward, but before he reached Monterey he got news that set him footing it back to Los Angeles. This was that Commodore Jones of the United States navy had sailed into Monterey bay and hoisted the American flag. Acting Governor Alvarado preferred this to being deposed, and took things as they came. Micheltorena ordered the Californians to drive all their cattle and horses into the mountains. Jones hauled down the Stars and Stripes after they had floated over the "Castillo" for just one day, being assured that there was no war between the United States and Mexico. He retired from the Bay of Monterey, and sent dispatches to his government explaining his mistake. Micheltorena removed all the military stores, guns, etc., from Monterey to the Mission San Juan Bautista, near the present town of Hollister. This was to prevent the Americans, or any one else, from sailing into port and capturing them.

The convict-soldiery was an offense to the Californians, and they were tired of Mexican rule. Alvarado, Castro and Vallejo united for an insur-



rection. Micheltorena had promised Sutter rich grants of land in the Sacramento valley for himself and American friends in return for his friendship. November 14, 1842, the insurrectionists captured the guns and ammunition stored at San Juan Mission; Castro retreated, followed by Micheltorena, to San Jose, where he expected aid from the foreigners, the Americans. They failed him, and he continued his retreat up the east side of the bay. At San Jose was Charles M. Weber, who had purchased and brought there a large store of fine goods. Fearing that if the convict-soldiers entered San Jose his goods would suffer, he went out to meet Micheltorena and begged him not to enter the town. With Weber went a number of Americans and Californians. They meant resistance if the troops tried to come into the town. Castro, hearing of this, came back, and Micheltorena agreed to return to Monterey.

About this time a family of note arrived at Sutter's fort. It was Martin Murphy with his wife, sons and daughters. Of this family, P. W. Murphy and James Murphy became residents of San Luis Obispo County, owning the Santa Margarita and Atascadero ranches. Sutter got his men together, and in January, 1845, started south to help Micheltorena. He had about one hundred fifty Indians and sixty Americans. Soon the Americans learned that it was only their countrymen of the Sacramento who favored Micheltorena, and they began leaving Sutter. Castro had gone south and Micheltorena followed. The two forces finally came together near Los Angeles. A battle took place, but in the end Micheltorena was induced to surrender and return to Mexico. Pio Pico was declared governor.

### A Move by the Americans

Now was started a movement among the Americans designed to result in banding them together for mutual protection, and eventually to wrest the northern half of the state from the southern; but events were fast coming that were to settle the fate of California without their aid. In 1846 war was declared between Mexico and the United States. The results were bound to follow as they did.

### Fremont

John C. Fremont was sent by the United States government on a third trip across the continent. He was a captain of topographical engineers and was, no doubt, sent to be here in case of trouble with Mexico. He was already known as the Pathfinder, and was seeking, on this trip, among other things, an easier route from the western base of the Rocky mountains to the mouth of the Columbia river. Fremont visited Castro, stated his purpose and asked permission to continue his journey. Castro was all cordiality, and readily gave consent "on the honor of a Mexican soldier," assuring him of protection. With Fremont were sixty-two hardy soldiers and frontiersmen, among them Kit Carson. No sooner had Fremont started north than Castro began pursuing him with his rabble army, dancing up in front of Fremont's men, but always keeping out of range of their bullets. He ordered Fremont to at once leave California or be annihilated. Fremont was not here to start trouble, so he left Castro and his circus-riders, and moved on to the north. May 9, 1846, he was overtaken near Klamath lake by Lieutenant A. H. Gillespie, U. S. Marine Corps, who had been sent out from Washington the previous November, with orders to overtake Fremont. Gillespie had had a long conference with U. S. Consul Larkin at Monterey, where he was

known as a "private gentleman traveling for his health." Gillespie certainly carried verbal messages from President Polk to Fremont (it was not intended that the messages should be taken, if the bearer were himself captured), and he brought letters to Fremont from his father-in-law, U. S. Senator Benton. In Congress much had been said about California in the event of war with Mexico. The slave-holding states were looking forward to getting another slave state, or at least the half that lay south of 36 degrees 30 minutes N. Lat., the old Missouri Compromise line. Fremont and Gillespie talked long by the camp fire that night, and in the morning the horses were headed south on the backward trail.

The controversy with England over the northern boundary line was on. An English fleet was on the coast, and three nations were watching, each eager for the plum when California should finally drop from the parent tree. These were England, France and the United States. Castro was making a great ado over driving out the "Gringos," this to curry favor with Mexico in hope of being made governor. When Fremont got back to Sutter's fort, he found the settlers greatly excited. Castro had given orders for all the horses north of San Francisco bay to be taken and driven to the Santa Clara valley for his soldiers' use. A large band had been driven to Knights Landing on the Sacramento river to be swum across. This was reported at Sutter's as "a band of three hundred men approaching." The settlers about the fort joined Fremont's men, and it was decided to "go ahead." The Americans were thoroughly tired of Castro's boastings, and, it seemed, were determined to really let him get acquainted with the genuine "Yankee," and not allow him to have the horses he had gathered to use against them.

Ezekiel Merritt, with twelve others, was ordered to "get" the horses. On the night of June 9 they surprised the camp—De Arce was in charge—and drove the animals back to Fremont's camp. It is not definitely known that Fremont sent Merritt for the horses, but he certainly did not insist on their being taken back. No doubt Fremont understood that the United States government intended him to take a hand if he felt it was necessary, but he did not want to repeat Jones' error at Monterey four years before; so he seems to have done things without definite orders from the government at Washington, yet fully assured that if necessary it would back him.

He knew that Commodore John Drake Sloat was sailing northward in the U. S. frigate "Savannah," closely followed by Admiral Sir George Seymour in the British ship "Collingwood," and that it was an ocean race, with California the prize. He probably knew that Secretary of the Navy Bancroft had ordered Sloat to take Monterey, and that the British Vice-Consul at Monterey was only waiting for Seymour and the guns to annex California to Great Britain.

### The Trip to Sonoma

Fremont may not have ordered the thirty-three men who left camp at 3 P. M., June 12, 1846, to take Sonoma, but he saw them start from his camp on the Feather river, and he knew their intentions. On June 13 they reached Grigsby's ranch in Napa valley, where others joined them. June 14, 1846, at daybreak the Americans rode into Sonoma and surrounded General Vallejo's big adobe house. Vallejo knew that California was bound to be annexed by one of the three nations after it. He preferred the United States, so when he heard English words calling at his door, he dressed and ordered the

men to enter. In spite of the writers who have tried to make this event dramatic, spectacular or ridiculous, it was really none of the three. Comandante Vallejo asked the callers their business, and by whose authority they made their demand. He was a Republican and quite ready to foil Castro and Pico, who were plotting to annex California to a monarchy. The Americans told Vallejo they arrested him by orders of Captain John Fremont, but said nothing about the United States. If trouble came, they were going to shoulder it, and not make it a matter for their country. If this was not true "love of country," then show a greater example.

Vallejo knew that Fremont was not the man to act hastily nor without authority, so he realized this was not just a mob he was dealing with. He could surrender and be relieved of his duties as a Mexican official, and he was ready to become an American. His brother, Salvador Vallejo, and Victor Prudon were arrested with him. The surrender of all the guns and government property in the castillo ended his official connection with Mexico, and now it was "up to him" to show California hospitality; so he invited all the company to breakfast. There were lively times in the old adobe kitchen for a while then all sat down to a bountiful meal. The Americans were toasted by the General in his own wine, and as Tom Gregory says in his history of Sonoma county, "Knight the interpreter didn't try to interpret. He let everybody eat and drink in his own language." The following paper was drawn up and signed, then presented to General Vallejo:

"We, the undersigned, having resolved to establish a government upon republican principles, in connection with others of our fellow citizens, and having taken up arms to support it, have taken three Mexican officials prisoners, General M. G. Vallejo, Lieutenant Colonel Victor Prudon and Captain Salvador Vallejo. Having formed and published to the world no regular plan of government, feel it our duty to say it is not our intention to take or injure any person who is not found in opposition to our cause, nor will we take or destroy the property of private individuals further than is necessary to our support. Signed, Ezekiel Merritt, R. Semple, William Fallon."

### The Raising of the Bear Flag

The little squad of men who captured Sonoma, June 14, 1846, had a new republic on their hands; so the next thing was a flag for it. Bound to save trouble for their "own United States," they did not raise her flag, but made one of their own. They used Old Glory's colors, red and white, a white square of cloth with a strip of red flannel sewed across the bottom. James McChristian, the last known survivor of the Bear Flag party, lived at Sebastopol in 1912, and he told the story as follows: "Colonel Merritt told off Jack Ransford, Peter Storm and John Kellar to 'do the heavy work.' In their cruise around Sonoma, they came across Mrs. John Matthews, wife of the express rider between Sutter's fort and Sonoma. She gave them a red flannel petticoat. A band of it was sewed across the piece of white sheeting by Ransford. William Lincoln Todd, nephew of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln, was the artist. It had been decided to paint 'Los Osos,' emblem of strength and native of the country, on the white field, and a star in the right upper corner. Across the lower part the legend, 'California Republic.' Some lampblack, a can of red paint and another of linseed oil had been commandeered. Henry Ford outlined with pen and ink the outlines of the bear on both sides of the cloth, and

Todd went to work. The bear came out more cinnamon than grizzly. The townspeople looking on pronounced it 'el porcino,' and an English sailor present said it 'looked like a bloomin' red 'og.' The flag of Mexico came down, and that of the Bear Flag Republic went up and stayed up for twenty-five days."

The Bear Flag was adopted by the new California Republic sixty-nine years to a day after Congress adopted the national flag June 14, 1777. It became the state flag March 3, 1911. June 8, 1880, the Native Sons adopted it as the standard of their order. At the request of J. R. Snyder of Sonoma, its bear was placed on the state seal. The only ceremony at this flag-raising, aside from the cheers of "Los Osos!" as the new flag fluttered from the staff from which the Mexican colors had come down, was an oration by Lieutenant Henry L. Ford, who with First Sergeant Granville F. Swift and Second Sergeant Daniel Gibson, composed the "Grand Army" of the new republic.

#### Ford's Address

"My countrymen, we have taken upon ourselves a damned big contract. We have gone to war with the Mexican nation, and that will keep us busy for some time. We are bound to defend one another or be shot. There is probably no half-way place in the matter. To make our object good and take care of ourselves we must have order, we must have discipline. Each of you have had a voice in choosing your officers. Now that they have been chosen, they must be obeyed. This is business, and there is no back-out from it." Vallejo said "Bueno," and started right in being a good American citizen.

#### Sloat at Monterey

"Down on the Rio Grande" the two republics, the United States and Mexico, were bitterly fighting, but as yet the people at large in California knew nothing of this. Twenty-five days later, war in California was on in earnest. May 15, 1846, Secretary of the Navy Bancroft sent Sloat orders to take Mazatlan, Monterey and San Francisco, one or all, according as his force would permit. Arriving at the port, he learned more of Great Britain's schemes.

British Consul Forbes, Governor Pico and Castro had talked over a fresh "declaration of war" on the part of California, and an appeal to Great Britain for protection. A British fleet was to be handy and, presto, California was to be "protected" by the British lion. Mexico owed large sums of money to Englishmen in Mexico; she was tired of her troublesome child, California; her enemy, the United States, would be cheated out of the chief prize of victory over Mexico, and by letting California go to Great Britain she saw a chance to pay her debts, get revenge, and be rid of trouble, so there was nothing to fear from Mexico if this little plan carried. Larkin had managed to let this plan be known at Washington, so Fremont, acting on the verbal orders Gillespie carried to him, had retraced his steps and gone into camp on the Sacramento river close to the Feather river. His civil engineering training told him to get possession of Sonoma, for there he had a clear way to San Francisco bay. Sutter's fort was close at hand, where the Americans from the east gathered, and upon these he knew he could rely for help if he needed it.

While Sloat's ship, the "Savannah," lay idle in the port of Monterey, the "Collingwood," slow but sure, was coming, too. Sloat hesitated about raising

the flag for fear he should be premature as was Jones four years before, but if Seymour got ahead of him on shore, then there would surely be trouble. He had been told to take any one of three ports and it was hard to understand his delay. He had heard of the capture of Sonoma and at last, July 7, 1846, hoisted the Stars and Stripes over Monterey, where it has ever since floated on the breezes of the blue Pacific, and from which it shall ever float while American men live to protect Old Glory.

The three men taken prisoners at Sonoma were removed to Sutter's fort. Vallejo communicated with Commander John B. Montgomery of the U. S. sloop of war "Portsmouth" in San Francisco bay. Montgomery disavowed that his government had anything to do with Fremont's or Merritt's acts, and promised to protect the people of Sonoma. It was the fashion to "disavow" Fremont in those days, but he was not the only one to suffer in the end. Sloat "disavowed" but finally stirred himself and obeyed orders, taking Monterey, though that did not save him from being rebuked by the government for his tardiness. He resigned his command, and Stockton took his place. Fremont kept on doing what he believed his duty, which meant terrible hardship and considerable fighting, while the others "disavowed" and squabbled.

Colonel Philip Coke thus describes the situation: "Colonel Kearny is supreme, somewhere up the coast, Colonel Fremont is supreme at Pueblo de Los Angeles, Commodore Stockton is supreme at San Diego, Commodore Shubrick the same at Monterey, and I at San Luis Rey. We are all supremely poor, the government having no money nor no credit, and we hold the territory because Mexico is the poorest of all."

On July 8, 1846, the Stars and Stripes went up over Yerba Buena by Montgomery's orders; on the 10th the Bear Flag was lowered at Sonoma, having floated there since June 14; and on July 13 the American flag was raised over the town of San Jose by Captain Robert Fallon.

### Fremont Goes South

Stockton decided to take the southern towns, and July 27, by his orders, the "Cyane," with Commodore Dupont in command, sailed for San Diego with Fremont's battalion of one hundred and sixty volunteers on board. August 10, Stockton and three hundred soldiers on board the "Congress" sailed, intending to take Los Angeles. August 12 the U. S. sloop of war "Warren," under Hull, arrived with the news of war between the United States and Mexico. Then it was realized that Fremont must have known what he was about, and that he and his followers would be protected.

### A Blunder

Castro and his men had been paroled and Los Angeles garrisoned by fifty men, while only ten were left to hold Santa Barbara. The naval and land forces had gone north. Gillespie at Los Angeles had tried reforms that angered the Californians, who, led by Jose Maria Flores, rebelled, and there was another "insurrection" to quell.

### Juan Flaco (Lean John) or John Brown's Ride

September 23, 1846, Flores with a large force demanded the surrender of Los Angeles, Gillespie refused and Flores began a siege. Stockton must be

asked for aid. He was at Monterey, nearly five hundred miles to the north, and it was presumed that the intervening country was filled with hostile Californians. In Gillespie's command was a man bearing a name later to become immortal, the name of John Brown, christened by the Californians Juan Flaco (Lean John). He volunteered to ride with the message to Stockton. He worked his way through the enemy's lines, but was soon discovered and given chase. A horse was shot and killed under him, but he fled on foot for nine leagues, about thirty miles, until he reached the house of an American and secured a fresh mount. He reached Monterey September 30, having covered four hundred sixty miles in fifty-two hours and walked about thirty miles of it. Stockton was in Yerba Buena, one hundred forty miles farther north, and it was vital that he get to him. He had a few written words signed by the American alcalde rolled in a cigar carried in his hair. Colton says: "He was quite exhausted. I ordered him a bowl of coffee and a hearty supper. He slept three hours. In the meantime I secured fresh horses for him, and penned a permit to press others when these should flag. He was up and away before dawn." Colton was not inclined to give credit when not due, especially to those of the lower walks in life, so we may believe this story of an awful ride over the trails and mountain passes between Los Angeles and San Francisco, or Yerba Buena, as it was then called. "Juan Flaco" died at Stockton in 1863.

Gillespie surrendered to Flores with the understanding that he might march under arms to San Pedro and embark for Monterey. The garrison at San Diego escaped on board a whaler that lay at anchor in that harbor. This garrison was in the command of Captain Merritt of Bear Flag fame. Lieutenant Talbot at Santa Barbara, though having only ten men, refused to surrender when surrounded by two hundred Californians on horseback. The little garrison escaped in the night and were hunted over the hills and through the cañons back of the town for some time. The country was even set on fire to rout them out of their hiding, but a little cañon of pines concealed them until Cholo, an Indian chief, found them and conducted them safely to the San Joaquin valley. From there, though half starved, they made their way to Monterey, traveling probably fully five hundred miles.

Flores seemed to now have the country at his disposal with an army of three hundred to do his bidding. He issued a proclamation promising death to all Americans and confiscation of property. He called upon all Californians between the ages of fifteen and sixty to rally to arms and promised them death if they opposed him. When Stockton received John Brown's news he sailed in the "Savannah" for San Pedro, where he found Gillespie and his men on the "Vandalia" in the harbor. October 7, the forces were landed and started for Los Angeles. They were met by a party under Flores and Jose Antonio Carrillo on horses, and having a four-pound field piece. The Americans on foot, armed with muskets, were no match for their enemies; so after five of them were killed and others wounded, they retreated. The next day they re-embarked and sailed for Monterey, another opportunity for ending the rumpus gone.

Stockton sailed from San Francisco, October 25, and when he reached San Diego, found that Merritt had retaken it. He set his men at work making saddles, harness and bridles, preparatory to marching on Los Angeles.

In September, when Fremont was holding San Diego, he started Kit Carson and a small party to Washington to tell of the capture of California.

They went by the old Santa Fe route and on the Rio Grande met Stephen W. Kearny and an army on their way to California. When Kearny heard that his army was not needed here, he left it in New Mexico to help hold things even there, and with one hundred dragoons, guided by Carson, hastened on to California, reaching the crossing of the Colorado in November with exhausted men and famished horses.

There he learned of this second uprising and the need of his army left in New Mexico. Stockton was sent word of his arrival and of his condition. Stockton sent fifteen men under Gillespie and Beal to help the forlorn remnant to San Diego. On December 6, at San Pasqual, an Indian rancheria, they were met by one hundred sixty Californians under General Don Andrés Pico. A fight ensued. Three officers and sixteen men were killed. The horses drawing one of the howitzers became scared, stampeded and were lost, cannon and all. Kearny took position on a rocky elevation, but having neither food nor water, knew he was doomed unless help came. That night Carson, Beal and an Indian made their way through the enemies' line and succeeded in reaching San Diego. Lieutenant Gray and others went to the rescue, Pico fled, and at last Kearny and his dragoons reached San Diego.

January 8, 1847, the Americans with Kearny and his men, a force numbering six hundred, met the Californians, five hundred in number, at the San Gabriel river. The Americans forded the river, drove the enemy from their entrenchments and camped on the field. January 9, the battle of the Mesa took place, victory being with the Americans. On January 10 they took possession of Los Angeles, while the Californians, with glistening lances, looked on from the near-by hills.

### Fremont Goes North for Recruits

Now we must go back to Fremont, who was in the northern part of the state seeking more help. In November, 1846, he organized a battalion of four hundred twenty-eight men. Among them were his mountaineers who crossed the plains with him, some Walla Walla Indians, and a few men lately arrived from the East. No gay uniforms clothed this army. Buckskin, woolen of all colors, slouched hats or coon-skin caps, clothed the white men. The Indians wore their nakedness, paint and war bonnets. The only music was a battered bugle. All were mounted and four hundred horses, besides pack-mules and beeves, were driven along.

On November 15, former Consul Larkin was captured while on his way to San Juan. The Californians proposed to make him write notes to different members of Fremont's battalion, asking them to come to him. He refused, knowing that the object was to capture them if they came. He was threatened with death, but refused to write. They carried him prisoner to Los Angeles, and he was not restored to liberty until the Americans won the state. November 28, Fremont left San Juan, and reached San Miguel December 10. The cattle brought along for food were all gone, but the sheep at San Miguel furnished mutton instead. His horses were worn out, as there was almost no grass left at this season; so they were turned loose with bridles and saddles, and driven forward by the horse guard. The battalion left San Miguel on foot, December 14, the rain pouring. At noon cattle were killed and dinner (just meat) prepared.

### San Luis Obispo Captured

The battalion reached the foot of Cuesta grade during the night, the rain still coming in torrents. Don Mariano Bonilla and his family lived in the cañada and were made prisoners to prevent them from warning the enemy that was thought to be in waiting for them at San Luis Obispo. In reality there was no military force at San Luis Obispo. Fremont's men struggled along in the pitchy, wet night and the foremost halted on the outskirts of the town, waiting for the rest to come up. The artillery was still in the rear with the pack animals. What a trip that must have been over the old Cuesta road! Picture, if you can, getting any sort of artillery over the mountains in the deep mud and inky darkness with tired, worn-out, half starved animals for power. The town lay in darkness and Fremont supposed, when he saw one solitary light go out or disappear, that an armed force was waiting to receive him. Fremont formed his men in column, the bugles sounded "Charge" and three hundred horsemen dashed down the main street, the Indians sounding their war-whoops. The row aroused the sleeping people and panic ensued. All were declared prisoners and San Luis Obispo was taken "without bloodshed."

Two are said to have escaped and carried news of the capture to the outside populace on the ranchos. The soldiers were quartered in the Mission buildings and some in the church, where a guard was set to see that the altar and church decorations were not disturbed by sacrilegious hands.

### Pico a Prisoner

Don Jose de Jesus Pico, who had taken part in several insurrections or revolutions, was brought in from the house of a friend and made a prisoner. He was tried on the charge that he had written a letter to some of his friends denouncing the manner in which Fremont's army was taking horses from the Californians, depriving them of caring for their cattle, in thus taking away the horses. Also that he had broken his parole and was inciting the Californians against the Americans. A most natural thing to do, surely, all considered; still it was held punishable with death and the court-martial so pronounced it. The letter Pico was accused of having written had been found on an Indian, December 15. The Indian had been tied to a tree, Indians from a near-by rancheria driven in to witness the proceedings, and a file of soldiers ordered to fire upon the wretched creature. It is said the letter was never made public. This occurred just south of San Miguel, near Paso Robles.

The day after entering the town Fremont's men threw up earth-works on the elevation just beyond the present Andrews Hotel and back of the courthouse, the artillery so placed as to command the approaches to the town, for it was believed a large force of Californians was somewhere close at hand. Pico was sentenced, on December 16, to be shot the next day. He was not in arms when taken, and the whole thing has since been condemned.

### Pico's Life Saved

Early on the morning of December 17, a procession of women, with faces covered, some weeping audibly, led by a stately, beautiful woman with face upturned as if in prayer, passed down the corridor of the Mission to



Fremont's headquarters, where, on bended knees, they besought his mercy, begging for the life of their friend and relative, Don Jose de Jesus Pico. Fremont was obdurate at first, but the women still knelt before him and at last, a few minutes before the time when Pico was to have been shot, pardon was granted, at least his life was spared. He was taken with Fremont, a prisoner to Los Angeles. The beautiful woman who led the procession was Doña Ramona Wilson, mother of Romualdo Pacheco, whose father had been killed at Los Angeles by Avila. This son later became governor of the state.

### The Departure of Fremont

On December 18, about ten in the morning, the army started south, the expected enemy not having appeared. Fremont and his frontiersmen first, then the settlers who had joined him, then the Walla Walla Indians, and last a small band of California Indians under their chief, Antonio. All were in bad shape, draggled, wet and dirty. They traveled on through mud and rain for a week, then went into camp at Santa Ynez Mission, December 24. Fremont seems to have taken his men over difficult mountain trails in order to avoid an encounter with the enemy he believed traveling to meet him by the easier road along the coast. They were now in sore straits for food and the "aguardiente" they found in the Mission in abundance turned the men for the time being into hungry, but happy drunks. They drowned with liquor their memories of happier Christmases, as men in like straits have often done. Christmas morn broke bright and cheerful. Fremont, having been warned by Capt. Isaac J. Sparks and Mr. Foxen not to attempt Gaviota pass, as it was strongly guarded, led the men over a narrow trail now known as San Marcos pass. On top of the mountain a fearful cold blast almost froze the men, but they rolled and stumbled on, for rain and wind now tore down the cañon, almost sweeping the men into the gorge below. Some of the horses did go over into the cañon and perished. The horses were turned loose to do the best they could for themselves. The two pieces of artillery were left somewhere on the Santa Ynez mountains.

Picture those men, half clad, hungry and some shoeless, crawling and stumbling over the rocky pass in the storm on Christmas day, 1846, and take off your hats to those who saved this state to be one of the brightest stars in the galaxy of our national diadem. At the foot of the pass on a strip of level land the battered soldiers tried to make camp. A few little fires were got to burn, but the cold was terrible. All night men half dead from exposure straggled into camp. The army found no resistance at Santa Barbara and went on to Los Angeles too late to take part in the fighting in the south; but they had certainly shown their zeal for the cause, winning California for the United States. The Californians surrendered to Fremont at Cahuenga pass, a treaty of peace was negotiated and the war of conquest ended January 13, 1847.

### Terms of Peace

Fremont sent Major Pearson B. Reading, Lieutenant Louis McLane and Captain William H. Russell to Cahuenga pass, where Jose Antonio Carrillo and Augustin Olivera of the California forces met them. The treaty was arranged and signed January 13, 1847. By its terms all the Cali-

fornians were to deliver all guns and artillery to Fremont, return peaceably to their homes, promising to obey the laws of the United States, and not again take up arms during the war between the United States and Mexico, but to aid in preserving peace in California. Fremont guaranteed protection to life and property, and no one had to take the oath of allegiance until a treaty of peace between the United States and Mexico was made and signed. Any Californian so desiring could leave the country, and those choosing to remain should have all the rights and privileges of American citizens. Three days later, at Los Angeles, another item was added whereby all prisoners of both parties were released and all paroles and terms thereof canceled. The men from both sides appointed to arrange this treaty signed this and Fremont affixed his signature as Military Commander of California. This ended the insurrection. The Californians knew a nation stronger than themselves possessed the land; and thus was born the state of the golden poppy.

### Governors of California after the Conquest

When Sloat raised the flag, July 7, 1846, at Monterey, California passed under the government of the United States. Sloat, by virtue of his office as commander of the American vessel that raised the flag, was governor; but he never assumed the title, only issued a few proclamations. On July 17, 1846, he resigned his authority to Capt. Robert F. Stockton, who added governor to his title. After the second occupation of Los Angeles, Stockton, on January 15, 1847, appointed John C. Fremont governor, and himself returned to the command of his ship. As has already been told, Gen. Stephen W. Kearny had arrived in California without his army, having left it in New Mexico. He carried orders from Washington to organize a civil government in California if he conquered it. He certainly had done very little, compared with Fremont, in conquering the state. Stockton felt that he should be ahead of Kearny. Fremont's men blamed him for holding them back by his many detours, thus preventing them from getting to Los Angeles in time to share in the fighting. They could not get their pay; they blamed him for the awful hardships of the winter march, and for his liberality towards the Californians in allowing them all to go unpunished. His soldiers returned north, but Fremont remained in Los Angeles, calling it the capital. The Californians liked him because of his generous treaty terms, and in the south he had no trouble being governor. Early in March letters from Washington arrived for Kearny addressing him as governor, and that settled it. Kearny sent out a circular proclamation by couriers to all parts of the state, and when the news reached Los Angeles it resulted in Fremont's great ride.

### Fremont's Great Ride

Fremont at once set out for Monterey to see what could be done. With him were Don Jesus Pico, whose life he had spared at San Luis Obispo, and who was now a strong friend; also a servant, Jacob Dodson. They left with three horses apiece, so as to be able to change every twenty miles or so. They left early in the morning of March 22. Dodson or Pico lassoed the horses, which ran loose with the riders, when they desired to change mounts. Over the rough mountains and across deep cañons the riders sped until, at El Rincon, they were obliged to ride for fifteen miles in the suri that at

times almost covered them. Twilight was creeping over the sea when they at last reached the home of Don Thomas Robbins, who had married a sister of William Dana's wife. They had ridden one hundred and twenty miles. They stayed at the Robbins ranch over night, and the horses refreshed themselves on the abundant green grass. The next morning they were away over the spurs of the Santa Barbara mountains and close to the steep ridge where, the Christmas before, Fremont had taken his men over San Marcos pass through the awful storm. By evening they were at Captain Dana's home on the Nipomo, where they ate supper; but Don Jesus's home and friends were at San Luis Obispo, so they pressed on, reaching there at nine o'clock, one hundred thirty-five miles for that day's ride. The friends of Pico and Fremont were bent on entertaining the guests royally, and an elaborate breakfast was insisted upon; so it was eleven o'clock when, with eight fresh horses, the party resumed the ride.

At eight in the evening they lay down in their blankets for a few hours sleep, seventy miles from San Luis Obispo. There bears stamped the horses. They were at length caught up, and early in the morning the party rode forward. At sunset they rode into Monterey, having ridden ninety miles that day. Fremont had an interview with Kearny, who showed him no orders, but commanded him to return to Los Angeles and send his soldiers to Monterey by sea; while he, himself, was to follow by land.

Colton tells this story of the return ride. "The two horses ridden from San Luis to Monterey were a present to him from Don Jesus, who now desired Fremont to test their strength. They were brothers, one a year younger than the other, both beautiful satin-coated (*los canelos*). Fremont mounted the older of the two, that with tossing head and streaming mane gallantly led the rest. They started at four o'clock in the afternoon, the day after their arrival, rode forty miles that evening, and Fremont on the same horse rode ninety miles the next day. When thirty miles from San Luis Obispo he changed to the younger horse, though Pico insisted the one ridden so far that day could easily finish the remaining thirty miles. However Fremont turned him loose, and he led the loose horses while the younger one swept ahead of all those under the saddle. The older horse, after carrying Fremont ninety miles, entered San Luis Obispo in the lead on a sweeping gallop, neighing with exultation and joy at the return to home pastures. All the eight horses had traveled one hundred and twenty miles each that day. A rainstorm held the party in San Luis Obispo until noon the next day, when they left on the horses ridden from Los Angeles and made the rest of the trip in equally good time. In all, they had ridden eight hundred and forty miles in seventy-six hours.

Kearny as general had rank over Fremont as captain. Envy and jealousy played a large part in trumping up charges of disobedience to a superior officer. Fremont was ordered to Fortress Monroe, Va., where he was tried and ordered dismissed from the service. The President, after signing the order for dismissal from the army and the service, at once re-instated him to his rank and asked him to enter the service. Fremont refused. He had endured enough of "military precedence." The people, to show their sympathy, nominated him for President, and he made a close run with his opponent. He entered the Civil War as a volunteer and was mustered out Major General. He died in New York, July 13, 1890.

## CHAPTER V

### Spanish Grants and Old Families in San Luis Obispo County

#### THE GRANTS

The following is a list of the grants made in San Luis Obispo County. A few Spanish grants were made prior to the secularization of the missions, but the most were made later by the Mexican government. By the treaty with Mexico, the landholders were guaranteed their possessions. A commission was appointed to hear testimony and settle claims. The decision of the commission might be appealed to the United States District and Supreme courts. In many cases long litigation followed the commission's decisions, and often the costs of the suits ate up the land in question. Taking the San Miguel Mission lands, they were divided into the Ascension rancho of 39,224.81 acres, and the Atascadero, 4,348.23 acres. These were at one time owned by Martin Murphy, and later by his sons, P. W. and James Murphy. P. W. Murphy also owned the Santa Margarita ranch, in all about 70,000 acres, in this county, and the Cojo ranch of 9,000 acres in Santa Barbara county. The Cholame grant of 13,919.82 acres was given to Mauricio Gonzalez. The Santa Ysabel, 17,774.12 acres, was granted to Francisco Arce; the Huer-Huero, to Jose Mariano Bonilla, 15,684.95 acres. Paso de Robles grant, 25,993.18 acres, became the property of James and Daniel Blackburn and D. L. James, a brother-in-law of the Blackburn brothers. Piedra Blanca, 48,805.59 acres, was granted to Jose de Jesus Pico. Later owners were Juan Castro, heirs of Mariano Pacheco, and Peter Gillis. At present this and the Santa Rosa grant are owned by W. R. Hearst and are known as the Hearst Ranch. One of Mr. Hearst's vaqueros, it is said, is the son of Julian Estrada, who once owned the Santa Rosa grant and lived in feudal style. This ranch controls almost fifteen miles of seacoast and the fine harbor of San Simeon bay, where large seagoing vessels can and do anchor at the wharf. The San Simeon grant of 4,468.81 acres was granted to Jose Ramon Estrada; San Geronimo, 8,893.35 acres, was granted to Rafael Villavicencio; Morro y Cayucos, 8,845.49 acres, to Martin Olivera and Vicente Feliz; San Bernardo, 4,379.43 acres, to Vicente Canet; San Luisito, 4,389.13 acres, to Guadalupe Cantua; Cañada del Chorro, 3,160.99 acres, to John Wilson and James Scott; El Chorro or Huerta de Romualdo, 117.13 acres, to an Indian, Romualdo, but it soon passed to another person; Cañada de Los Osos, 32,430.70 acres, to Victor Linares, Francisco Badillo, James Scott and John Wilson.

Potrero de San Luis Obispo, containing 3,506.33 acres, went to Maria Concepcion Boronda; Santa Fe, 156.76 acres, to Victor Linares; La Laguna, one league mission land, 4,157.02 acres, confirmed to Archbishop Joseph Sadoc Alemany; San Miguelito, 22,135.89 acres, to Miguel Avila; Corral de Piedra, 30,911.20 acres, to Jose Maria Villavicencio; Pismo, 8,838.89 acres, to Isaac J. Sparks; Arroyo Grande or San Ramon, 4,437.58 acres, to Zeferino Carlon; Santa Manuela, 16,954.83 acres, to Francis Z. Branch; Balsa de Chemisal, 14,335.22 acres, to Francisco Quijada; Nipomo grant of 37,887.91 acres, to William G. Dana.

Suey was granted to Ramona de Carillo Wilson; the entire ranch contained 48,234.77 acres, 24,497 acres lying in this county and the remainder in

Santa Barbara county. Huasna, 22,152.99 acres, was given to Isaac J. Sparks; Tepesquet, 2,950 acres in San Luis Obispo County, and 5,950.75 acres in Santa Barbara county, to Tomas Olivera; Santa Margarita, 17,734 acres, to Joaquin Estrada; Atascadero, 4,348.23 acres, to Triphon Garcia; Ascunson 39,224.81 acres, to Pedro Estrada; Paso de Robles, 25,993.18 acres, to Pedro Narvaez; Mission San Luis Obispo, 52.72 acres, to Catholic Church; lot in Mission San Luis Obispo, one acre, to John Wilson. The public library of San Luis Obispo now stands on that lot.

In the majority of cases these great grants were literally sold for a song to the American settlers when they came in. At the present time only a very few are held in part by the heirs of those who received the grants. The Huasna rancho was divided by Mr. Sparks among his three daughters, Mrs. Flora Harloe, Mrs. Rose Porter and Mrs. Sallie Harkness. These ladies either still own part of their inheritance, or held it until it commanded a good price. The Nipomo grant was subdivided among the heirs of William G. Dana, and some of his sons still own portions of it. Members of the Branch family still own a small portion of the Santa Manuela and Arroyo Grande ranches. So far as can be learned, all the other great grants have passed out of the possession of the original holders.

About fifteen years ago the grandson and granddaughter of Jose Maria Villavicencio, known as Villa, found and homesteaded a piece of government land in the hills back of Nipomo. The granddaughter is a teacher in the county, a fine woman, who, with her brother, has for years made a comfortable home for their mother. This mother as a girl dressed in silks and wore her satin dancing slippers. As a wife and mother she toiled on a little ranch to raise the family, and saw others grow rich and live in luxury on the lands of the Corral de Piedra that her father sold for so little. No wonder some of these Spanish women of the olden days refuse to speak the language of the Americans. To them the Americans spelled ruin, and their girlhood memories were embittered because their Spanish fathers were not able to cope with the keen Yankee business of the "Gingos."

## OLD FAMILIES

### John M. Price

John M. Price came to California in 1830. He was born in Bristol, England, in 1810. From there he went to sea at the age of fifteen and before he was eighteen was on a whaling vessel in the Pacific. With a companion he ran away while on shore in western Mexico to escape the brutal treatment of his captain. For six or seven years Mr. Price worked on the cattle ranches of the Salinas valley, in what is now Monterey county. He then came down and went to work on the Nipomo for William Dana, being paid fifteen dollars per month. Alvarado, the Mexican governor, had made promises to an American, Isaac Graham, who had helped him win over Guiterrez as governor of the state. Those promises Alvarado now refused to fulfil and determined to rid himself of Graham and all the other Americans. On one pretext or another he induced "the foreigners" to come by twos and threes to Monterey, when he arrested them and threw them into prison, until he had one hundred sixty prisoners. He placed them on a ship and started them to Mexico, stopping at Santa Barbara.

One day in May, 1840, a band of soldiers arrived at the Dana ranch and arrested Price. He was taken to Santa Barbara and placed with the other prisoners. At Monterey it was debated whether shooting the prisoners would not be best; but a vessel, the "Don Quixote," came into port, and the captain learned Alvarado's plan and induced him to send the captives to San Blas for trial. The "Don Quixote" followed the ship having on board the prisoners. At Santa Barbara, they were taken off the vessel and put in prison there, where one, an Englishman, died from the cruel treatment they were all subjected to. After a few days at Santa Barbara, the men were taken back to the ship and the vessels sailed for Tepic. Here an appeal was made to the American consul, who seemed to do nothing; then the English consul was asked to interfere. He got the prisoners released, and allowed \$3.50 per week for rations.

The men now demanded compensation of the Mexican government and after months were offered \$400.00 each, and all to be set free at San Blas. All but fifteen accepted these terms. Among the latter was Price. These men demanded to be returned to their homes and compensated in full for their losses and sufferings. They were settled with, and returned to Monterey after six months' absence. In 1846, Mr. Price lived in an old adobe near where the town of Arroyo Grande is. Fremont, on his way from San Luis Obispo to Los Angeles, stopped at the ranch, but after a short parley went on. "Uncle Johnnie Price" was the friend of all, and during his latter years dressed in a neat gray suit and silk hat. He was a familiar figure on the streets of Arroyo Grande, where the writer first met him in 1900, still hale and hearty. He owned 7,000 acres at Pismo and held many public offices which will be mentioned later. He died at his home, June 4, 1902, at the age of eighty-two. He is buried in the Catholic cemetery at Arroyo Grande.

#### William G. Dana

On the Nipomo lived William G. Dana and his family. Mr. Dana was born in Massachusetts in 1797. He came of a fine family, among them ministers, statesmen, authors, poets and men of the sea. At the age of eighteen, he went to China on board his uncle's vessel. He determined to enter the trade with China and India and later we find him captain of the "Waverly," plying between this coast, the Sandwich islands and the Orient. In 1825 he established a store at Santa Barbara. The handsome young American fell in love With Doña Maria Josefa Carrillo, daughter of a wealthy Spanish family of Santa Barbara, and he applied to Mexico for citizenship. Things did not move fast enough to suit the ardent lover, so he applied to the governor of California for permission to marry the lady at once. The governor said he must wait five months, or until his papers of naturalization were forwarded. In August, 1828, the marriage was celebrated with great ceremony. The same year he built the first vessel ever launched in California. The place where it slipped into the sea still bears the name Goleta (schooner). In 1835 he secured the Nipomo (foot of the hill) grant and in 1839 came there to live. A big adobe house of thirteen rooms was built, and a lavish hospitality characterized the Dana home. Often marauding bands of Tulare Indians had to be driven off or suffered to drive off the cattle. Mr. Dana established a soap factory, furniture factory, looms for weaving and black-

smith shops. He sold his goods to neighboring ranches, and to the Santa Ynez and La Purisima missions.

He brought home from his voyage quantities of sandal and other valuable woods. From these he made beautiful furniture, tables, bedsteads and wardrobes. Mr. Dana held the office of Prefecto under the Mexican rule. At the first election for state officers in 1849, he received a large vote for state senator; but some informalities awarded the election to Don Pablo de la Guerra. In 1851 he was the first county treasurer elected. Twenty-one children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dana. He died February 12, 1858, and is buried in the Catholic cemetery at San Luis Obispo, where a fine monument marks his resting-place.

#### Francis Ziba Branch

Francis Ziba Branch was born in New York, July 24, 1802. His father died before he could remember him, and as soon as he was able the boy had to become self-supporting. He went to work on the Erie canal, then on the Great Lakes and Mississippi river boats. At St. Louis he joined a party of one hundred fifty men, with eighty-two ox-drawn wagons, bound for Santa Fe, N. M. Later Mr. Branch joined a party under William Wolfskill, bound for California. In this state Mr. Branch engaged in hunting the sea otter. He made enough capital to set up a store at Santa Barbara. In 1835 he married Doña Manuela Corlona. In 1837 he received his great land grants on the Arroyo and the Santa Manuela, amounting to almost 17,000 acres. Later he became owner of the Huer-Huero and Pismo grants. He came to live upon his Arroyo grant and built a large adobe house. To protect his stock from Indians and bears, he kept his horses in a large corral. A bell was kept on one of the animals to warn him if they were disturbed. One night the steady tinkling of the bell aroused his suspicions. He went out and found an Indian steadily ringing the bell, while the corral was empty of horses. The rifle ball he sent after the thief missed, but soon Price, Sparks, Dana, Branch and others organized against the thieves, and more than one met his dues at the hands of the ranchers.

Bears were a great pest, killing the stock, and Mr. Branch related how, on one occasion, a bear killed a cow and partly ate the carcass. A pit was arranged, covered with brush, and in this Branch and a companion hid, hoping to get bruin the following night when he or she returned to finish the cow. It proved to be "she" and her cub. Branch shot the cub, and the cries of her child enraged the mother beyond telling. She tore around the dead body, leaping at the trees, tearing great strips of bark from them. Neither of the men in the pit dared reload and fire, so they stayed till morning, when the maddened creature left. On another occasion Mr. Branch said he saw nine bears at one time eating berries in the thickets on the hillside. He had his rifle and had gone out intending to shoot a bear if he saw one. To shoot nine was more than he wanted to tackle, so he quietly "got out."

Michael Daugherty, "Old Mike," was a valued servant on the place; and one time when a bear had killed a calf, he skinned the calf, put on the skin with head and horns attached, and "lay" for the bear. He also got it when it came back to finish the calf. In a copy of the San Luis Tribune, 1877, Hal Williams writes of a visit to the Branch estate. In the old adobe house one room was used for a school room; and fifteen children, mostly scions of the Branch family, were being taught there. In another room Old Mike, now

blind and eighty years of age, was being cared for. He said one day, while talking to Williams, "I don't know where old man Branch has gone, but wherever he is, he wants Mike." A few months later, November 3, 1877, Old Mike went to his master.

Mr. Branch at one time was the wealthiest man in the county, owning 37,000 acres of land and great herds of cattle and horses; but the dry years of 1862-63-64 almost ruined him and many others. In the beginning of 1863 he had 20,000 head of large cattle; before the close of 1864 he could gather less than 800 alive. Early in 1863 a cattle buyer from the north offered him twenty-eight dollars a head for his cattle; Branch refused and the deal was off. By failing to sell at the price offered, he lost \$96,000. He was a man well liked and was elected treasurer of the county and supervisor of his district. He died May 8, 1874, and is buried in the family burying ground on the Santa Manuela ranch. His descendants still live on portions of the old grants and in the towns of Arroyo Grande and San Luis Obispo.

### Isaac J. Sparks

Mr. Sparks was born in Maine in 1804. With his father he went west and finally went to St. Louis, leaving there in 1831, with a party bound for Santa Fe. He had many adventures on the way, but finally reached California in February, getting into Los Angeles, February 10, 1832. Here trouble awaited him; for by the laws, no one without a passport was allowed, and he was made a prisoner. He soon escaped; and without a cent in his pocket, but still possessed of a gun, he started to reach the coast at San Pedro. He shot a sea otter and thus began a business that he followed for years, reaping a rich harvest from it. The business then often yielded from seventy to one hundred thirty otter skins a year to each hunter, and the skins sold for from twenty-five to forty-five dollars each. He had, by 1848, established a large business, and had his headquarters at Santa Barbara. He decided to go further north for otter and took four boats and twenty men to Cape Mendocino. Hostile Indians drove them off and they returned to Yerba Buena. Here the gold excitement demoralized his crew; they sought the mines and Sparks returned to Santa Barbara and engaged in storekeeping. He was the first postmaster at that place under the United States government. He was a firm friend of the American cause in California, and of Fremont. He advanced \$25,000 worth of supplies in cattle, horses and other things to the army, and appealed in vain to the government for payment. He erected the first fine brick building in Santa Barbara. Mr. Sparks obtained from the Mexican government two grants, the Huasna and Pismo. The latter he sold to John M. Price and the Huasna he gave to his three daughters, as previously mentioned.

### Francis E. Quintana

Francisco Estevan Quintana came here from Mexico in 1843. He purchased 6,000 acres of land, owned much town property and was one of the pioneer business men of San Luis Obispo. His son, Pedro Quintana, lives in a fine home in this city at the present time (1917). Francisco E. Quintana died in 1880, at the age of seventy-nine years.

In a previous chapter Captain John Wilson and family were mentioned. The members of those prominent early Spanish families that once lived here are now few and fast passing away. Mrs. Ramona Hillard, daughter



of Doña Ramona Carrillo Wilson, died in 1913, and is buried here. Mrs. Estafana Esquar, daughter of Governor Alvarado, and wife of E. Esquar, at one time superior judge of Monterey, died at her home in San Luis Obispo in September, 1916. Mrs. Esquar would tell of looking on with all the others at Monterey when the Mexican flag went down and the Stars and Stripes went up. She had resided here for sixty years and was eighty-four when she died. At her wedding the military band from the U. S. battleship "Savannah," lying in the harbor, came out in all their pomp of uniform and furnished music for the occasion. Officers in full regalia and all the grandees attended the ceremony.

---

## CHAPTER VI

### Discovery of Gold, and Early History of the County

Kearny was recognized here as governor, but on November 7, 1846, Col. R. B. Mason was dispatched by General Scott, Commander-in-chief of the U. S. Army, with a letter to Kearny, dated November 3, 1846. Mason came by way of Panama, arriving in San Francisco, February 13, 1847. This letter charged Kearny to assure himself that all was quiet here, and then to turn over his authority to Colonel Mason, and to return with a proper escort of soldiers. The U. S. Dragoons that came with him were to remain here.

July 4, 1848, the peace proclamation and its terms ending the war with Mexico were officially signed and published.

#### Discovery of Gold

January 19, 1848, James W. Marshall discovered gold in the mill-race of Sutter's sawmill. Of all that followed, of the mad rush of gold-seekers, by wagon train and Panama or around the Horn, so much has been written, and so often, that we are not going to repeat it here. On February 28, 1849, the steamship "California" arrived in San Francisco bay, having on board Gen. Persifer F. Smith, who had come to take command of the department, relieving Mason.

#### Governor Riley and the First Constitution

The discovery of gold had brought a great number of people to California, and a hundred thousand more were expected during the summer. The state so far had been under military government and no civil government had been established. The time had come when a suitable state constitution and government must be decided upon. On April 13, 1849, Brevet Brig. Gen. Bennett Riley issued a proclamation as commander of the department and governor of California. No longer were the people willing to be governed by a military governor and alcalde. Therefore, on June 3, 1849, Riley issued a proclamation recommending the forming of a state or territorial government. Ten districts were named, San Diego, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Monterey, San Jose, Sonoma, San Francisco, San Joaquin and Sacramento.

The convention met in Colton's hall at Monterey, September 1, 1849. San Luis Obispo sent Henry Amos Tefft and Jose M. Covarrubias to the con-

vention, which was in session six weeks, adjourning sine die October 13. The boundaries of the state were decided upon, and of course the discussion of slavery was introduced. There were seventy-three delegates to the convention. Of those American born, thirteen were from slave states. It was often reiterated, "This is a white man's government," and slavery or not for California was hotly discussed. William E. Shannon, a native of Ireland, was an ardent champion for a free state, and a free state California entered the Union, but with heavy restrictions upon the colored race.

The two great interests of the state at that time were mining and grazing, and there were "cow counties" and "mining counties." We were in the former class, and some folks still refer to us as "cow county." Long live the cow, for she has turned millions of dollars into our pockets, and we are planting alfalfa for her, building good barns and toadying to Madam Cow generally; but we do a few other things also, even mine a little. When taxes were discussed, members from the cow counties saw to it that a clause went in reading: "All property shall be taxed according to its value." November 13, 1849, the people adopted the constitution by a vote of 12,064 to 811.

### First State Election

The first state election was held November 12, 1849. State and legislative officers were both chosen at this election. The Constitution had divided the state into assembly and senatorial districts, and San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties formed one senatorial district. Don Pablo de la Guerra of Santa Barbara was chosen senator and Henry A. Tefft, assemblyman from San Luis Obispo County. Peter H. Burnett was chosen governor and John McDougal lieutenant governor; William Van Voorhies, secretary of state; Richard Roman, state treasurer; John I. Houston, comptroller; E. J. C. Kewen, attorney general; Charles H. Whiting, surveyor general; S. C. Hastings, chief justice; J. A. Lyon and Nathaniel Bennett, associate justices of the supreme court. The constitution, if adopted, appointed December 15, 1849, for the opening of the assembly without waiting for the action of Congress. There were sixteen senators and thirty-seven assemblymen in the first California assembly which met at San Jose. E. Kirby Chamberlain was president pro tem and John Bigler, speaker. William M. Gwin and John C. Fremont were elected United States senators, and the congressmen were Gilbert and Wright.

These four men were instructed to go at once to Washington and urge Congress to admit California to statehood. Considerable discussion took place in Congress when the men from California made their request. The old slavery and anti-slavery wrangle had to be gone over. Some insisted that California must be a territory before she could be a state. After a long session and some compromising, California was admitted to the Union as a free state, September 9, 1850.

### A Jubilee

October 18, 1850, the steamship "Oregon" entered the port of San Francisco firing repeated signals as she rounded Clark's Point, her masts literally covered with flags. A universal shout went up from the entire populace, which at the first firing of the signals had left homes and all places of business to hear the news they expected the ship was bringing. People were

crowded upon the wharves, the hills and house-tops, and the ships in the bay. From every throat leaped huzzas, flags of all nations were run up on the masts of the ships in the bay. An hour after the Oregon's arrival, the newsboys were crying the joyful tidings and selling papers for from one to five dollars each. The rejoicings continued all night. Cannons were fired, rockets hissed across the sky, bonfires blazed on the hills and it is safe to say no Fourth of July or Admission Day celebration since has ever equaled that celebration of October 18, 1850.

### Counties Established

February 18, 1850, an act was passed by the assembly dividing the state into twenty-seven counties and fixing their boundaries. The boundaries of San Luis Obispo County are practically the same as those fixed at that time. A little change was made in the southern boundary line a few years later, making it what it is today. San Luis Obispo was named as the county seat. The topography of the county has been described. The area is 3,284.3 square miles; its average length is sixty-two miles and average width sixty-four miles, though from the farthest eastern to its most western point is a distance of one hundred miles.

### First County Elections

The first county elections were ordered held on the first Monday in April, 1850. The prefects of districts were to designate election precincts and name the officers of election. March 23, 1850, an act was passed providing for general elections; the first Monday in October of each year state and district officers were to be elected. County officers were to be elected the second Monday in April, 1852, and every two years thereafter. The officers of each county were to be: one county judge, clerk, attorney, treasurer, surveyor, sheriff, recorder, assessor and coroner. It was ordered to have printed in Spanish two hundred fifty copies of the act, and these were to be sent to the prefects of Monterey, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Los Angeles and San Diego, and by them distributed at their discretion.

March 16, 1850, the state was divided into nine judicial districts; San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties formed the second district. A "Court of Sessions," consisting of the county judge and two justices of the peace, exercised the administrative and financial authority until 1852, when these duties were passed over to the board of supervisors. The legislature adjourned April 2, 1850, and has come down in history as "The Legislature of a Thousand Drinks," some say because all the members were so convivial; others say it was because on one occasion one member who felt very much like rejoicing, exclaimed, "Come on, boys, let's take a thousand drinks." Drinks or not, a pretty good job was accomplished, and some brilliant men sat in that first legislature.

All have passed to the "Great Beyond," but here is a list of some of them. Senators: Salem E. Woodworth, David F. Douglass, Elean Heydenfeldt, M. G. Vallejo, Pablo de la Guerra, Thomas Vermeule, W. D. Fair, Elisha O. Crosby, David C. Broderick, Dr. E. Kirby Chamberlain, John Bidwell, H. C. Robinson, Benjamin S. Lippincott. Assemblymen—Thomas J. White, Elam Brown, J. S. K. Ogier, Dr. E. B. Bateman, Edmund Randolph, E. P.

Baldwin, A. P. Crittenden, Alfred Wheeler, James A. Gray, Joseph Aram, Joseph C. Morehead, Dr. Benjamin Cory, Thomas J. Henly, Jose M. Covarrubias, Elisha W. McKinley, John B. Tingley, John S. Bradford and Henry A. Tefft.

The population of the county, in 1850, is given as three hundred thirty-six; this did not include Indians, but there were not a great number of them. A few worked on the great ranches and several hundred probably lived in rancherías. Before 1850, William G. Dana had served as prefecto of this section. Victor Linares, Jose de Jesus Pico, John M. Price, Miguel Avila, Joaquin Estrada, Esteban Quintana, J. M. Bonilla and others had been alcaldes.

At the first election for county officers held April 14, 1850, the following were elected: J. Mariano Bonilla, judge; Henry J. Dally, sheriff; C. J. Freeman, clerk; Joaquin Estrada, recorder; John Wilson, treasurer; Joseph Warren and Jesus Luna, justices of the peace. The court of sessions appointed Francis Z. Branch, assessor; William Hulon, county surveyor; and William Stener, harbor-master. Gabriel Salazar was appointed "judge of the plains." This was an important office, for these judges had charge of all questions relating to cattle, had to supervise the driving, branding, killing and ownership of the cattle on the great stock ranges. San Luis Obispo County had several judges of the plains after it became a county. The office had first been created under Mexican rule, but it was an office needed much under American rule as well. All records were kept in little books, much like the blank books used by children in school for their written work, and in the Spanish language. The court passed sentence as it thought best. In the case of Pedro Marquez, recorded as "a criminal case between the state versus Marquez," the criminal was sentenced to three months imprisonment and \$100.00 fine. The fine was evidently worked out on the ranches of "Juan" Price and "Guillermo" Dana, as there were certificates filed from these men stating the number of days he had worked for each.

### First Courthouse

At the meeting of the court of sessions, August 20, 1850, the question of a courthouse and jail came up. Rooms in the Mission had been used for holding court and for confining prisoners. The chapel and adjoining rooms were under the control of the priest, by order of Secretary Halleck. John Wilson and his partner, Scott, claimed the rest of the buildings, and the public also claimed and had used for all sorts of purposes, rooms of the wings. If Wilson owned the property, he was ordered to make repairs. The court took upon itself a good many powers. It ordered the people to put the roads in repair and keep them so; closed to travel the road made by passengers from the entrance of the Cuesta to the Nipomo road, and a fine of ten dollars was imposed for each offense of disobeying; arranged for tavern licenses to be granted only to residents. A gambling license cost fifteen dollars a month, rules in Spanish and English to be placed on view in each gambling resort. It appointed a superintendent of water to look after the irrigation rights. The one farthest from the dam could irrigate first, the others in order, and each "one hundred varas" of land could have water for forty-eight hours at a time. It allotted land in the town, where all cattle killed in the town must be slaughtered, and provided a penalty of two dollars fine for the

first infraction of the law and twenty for the second. The streets were to be kept clean by the inhabitants. All foot-paths in front of buildings must be swept by 8 A. M. on Saturdays or a fine of two dollars would be imposed; also on Saturdays the justice of the peace should see that a cart and two men clean away all street garbage.

A prisoner, Francisco Garcia, was being held and the court ordered two dollars per night paid to each man necessary to watch him. No mention is made of the crime for which he was held. The days on which each cattle owner in the county might hold a rodeo were set and the "judge of the plains" was to be notified of a rodeo two days in advance. All brands and earmarks were to be registered. A piece of the town land was set aside as a sort of rancheria; all Indians "with white masters" must live on this plot, and persons holding contracts with Indians for labor to be performed must publish the same without delay. Liquor could be sold to Indians on Sunday afternoons only between the close of church and sundown, and the Indians must go to a place designated to drink it. Behold the first "Sunday liquor law" of the county.

Henry A. Tefft was elected the first judge of the second judicial district, viz.: this and Santa Barbara counties. May 3, 1852, boards of supervisors were provided for, by an act of the legislature, for some counties, this being one. The supervisors took over the duties of the courts of sessions, and they ceased to be. The duties were about the same as for supervisors at present. The first board was composed of John Wilson, Francis Z. Branch, Joaquin Estrada, William G. Dana and Samuel A. Pollard. At the first meeting, Mr. Dana was declared "not eligible," as he was to be treasurer of the county; so William L. Beebee was appointed in his place. Each supervisor was to receive five dollars per day for each day's necessary attendance, and twenty-five cents per mile going, the miles to be estimated from his home to the place of meeting. They could not contract debts that would exceed the annual revenue of the county for county purposes.

In 1850, the tax list showed sixty-two taxpayers and the amount of taxes placed at \$4,150.67. Of this sum John Wilson paid \$639.20; Jesus Pico, \$207.30; Rafael Villa, \$176.57; Isaac J. Sparks, \$260.80; Julian Estrada, \$190.70; Joaquin Estrada, \$296.50; W. G. Dana, \$379.17; Vicente Canet, \$122.10; F. Z. Branch, \$431.52. The other sums ranged from \$98.50 to the lowest, \$4.50. Don Jose Jesus Pico got a change made in his taxes as you will see later.

### A Few Items of Interest

March, 1852, \$300 for repairing courthouse, \$20 for lock to "gaol," \$8 for county branding iron, \$5 for interpreter. Licensed, two monte tables, @ \$35.00 per month; two billiard tables @ \$10.00 per month; retailing liquor, \$7.50 per quarter, nine bars licensed. Two peddler's licenses, @ \$7.00 per month. Merchants, \$1.00 per month, seven licensed. This is in 1852-53.

At a meeting of the court of sessions in December, 1851 the following business was transacted. County Judge Bonilla received \$759.00 for three months' services; all taxes could be paid in legal tender of the United States, foreign coins of fixed value or gold dust at the rate of \$16.00 Troy ounce; a jailor was appointed, pay \$25.00 per month; \$36.00 per month allowed for each prisoner's board. The clerk's salary was reduced from ten to six dollars per day "while attending upon the court." The county auditor got ten

dollars for the month of September, 1851; \$300.00 was appropriated for courthouse furniture, to be used presumably in a room of the Mission, "to wit, five common benches, each eight feet long, two six feet long, one judge's bench five and a half feet long, to be raised twelve inches from the floor, one seat for the associate judges; one book case with pigeon-holes, one clerk's table, two smaller tables for use of lawyers, and a railing across the court-room with gate." The contract was awarded Rollin M. C. Hoyt, witnessed by F. I. Maguire, county clerk.

### A Little Episode not Confined Entirely to the Past

An unassuming gentleman called upon Don Jesus Pico, asked for entertainment, and it was granted. During the visit the Don boasted of his wealth, family jewels, land and herds worth \$22,000. Out came a little book and the assessor (it chanced to be he) entered Don Pico's taxable property in his lists. In January, 1852, the Don prayed the court of sessions to reduce his taxes; he was worth only \$1,200. They were reduced. A little later the Don appeared, complaining that fifteen young mares had been omitted, and asked that the court add them. It did, and justice seemed to be satisfied.

### A Tribute to the Early Pioneers

It is not our intention in this history of San Luis Obispo County to make it a record of political parties. It matters little to our readers whether the Republicans, Democrats or some other party won at this or that election. If anyone is especially interested in political records let him search the election returns for himself. Myron Angel's history of the county, published by Thompson & West in 1883, contains a record of every county election from 1850 to 1883, and all are interesting; but in the space allotted us in this volume we wish to tell of the men and women who won our county from a wilderness to its present state of prosperity. Of their toils, dangers and successes we shall write. Few of those who first settled in the county won wealth or fame; pioneers in any place seldom do. They break the way, suffer privations and loss, then die or give up in despair. The second and third generations of settlers come, profit by the others' mistakes, find the foundations all laid and go on building up successful, prosperous lives, often thinking it is because they have the "gray matter" under their hats. It is nothing of the kind, it is because they have "reaped where others have sown." None of the men in San Luis Obispo County today, calling themselves rich, fought bears and cleared the "montes" for cultivation; neither have they been compelled to travel hundreds of miles on horseback, eat coarse fare and little of it, and wait for months for the letter their lonesome hearts were longing for. The pioneers have mostly gone to their graves made on lonely hillsides or in forgotten places. Some of these graves are marked by leaning headstones; more are covered with weeds and briars. They have passed on among those "unhonored and unsung" on earth, but we have faith in the God who created souls brave and strong enough to dare the wilderness, to see that they are not unhonored in "the land of the hereafter."

## CHAPTER VII

### History from 1850 to 1860. A Land of Crimes

The discovery of gold had apparently no influence upon the history of this county. The gold frenzy was confined to the northern part of the state. From San Jose to Los Angeles the cattle business was the principal industry. Only two settlements large enough to be called villages even, existed in 1850, San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara. Travel from one place to the other had to be by schooner or sailing vessel, and few stopped at our ports; for there were no wharves, only "landings," and rarely a passenger; so on horseback down the Salinas valley, over the Santa Lucia mountains, through Cuesta pass to the first little town, and on by the coast trail to Santa Barbara and Los Angeles. Travel by land was very dangerous, for the whole region, especially south of Soledad, was infested by bands of desperadoes. Robberies and murders were of great frequency. The native Californians, with their hatred for the "Gringos" and fear of meeting a like fate at the same hands, would give no evidence against the villains, but harbored them, either through fear or for a share of the plunder.

In 1852-53, the state was terrorized by a band of desperadoes that ranged the country under the leadership of Joaquin Murrieta. Another leader, Jack Powers, with his gang infested this and Santa Barbara counties, making excursions into other territory as well. In 1853, the legislature ordered the enlisting of a company of rangers to hunt Murrieta and the others.

The company was known as Harry Love's Rangers, Love being the captain. Murrieta on more than one occasion was in San Luis Obispo living with his pals. At the end of Chorro street over near the mountains are two little adobe houses; Murrieta is said to have lived in one, and another scoundrel, Vasquez, in the other. In the spring of 1853 Murrieta and his gang came to town, first sending word that they were coming for a rest, before going on to Mexico; and if any one attempted to meddle with them, the town would be sacked. They arrived, a desperate, swarthy set, "armed to the teeth," and camped in the garden of the Mission. There were only five or six Americans in town; and knowing his hatred of them, they kept out of sight day times, and at night camped with their arms in Pollard's store. The building was an old adobe on the corner of Chorro and Monterey streets, where Fletcher's store now stands. Murrieta left town without making any "killings," only robbing a gambler of his ill-gotten gains.

Jack Powers was a criminal and gambler in San Francisco in 1849. Fleeing from justice there, he organized a band of cutthroats and transferred his operations to this section. He would send out spies to find out when men would be coming south to buy up cattle. Often these fellows represented themselves as owning large herds seeking buyers. The buyers would set a time to come; and few, if any, got south of the Nacimiento river, which became known as the "dark and bloody ground." Their disappearances remained mysteries so far as the courts were concerned, for reasons already given. Their bodies with bullet holes or gaping knife thrusts were often found beside the road; or later in some ravine not far distant a bleached skeleton, with perhaps enough clothing left for identification, would be found.

In November, 1857, two Frenchmen, Pedro Obiesa and Graciano, collected a band of cattle and started north, hiring a Mexican, Frolian, as vaquero. This man and Jack Powers saw the Frenchmen receive money before leaving San Luis Obispo. The following Monday, November 30, a horse race took place at Santa Margarita; Powers, Lenares and a band of "greasers" were present, and that night disappeared. At Paso Robles the Frenchmen received cattle and paid for them. Here Frolian left the cattle buyers, but a man named Nieves Robles appeared and asked to join the Frenchmen and travel with them to San Jose. That night their horses were stampeded. In the morning the two Frenchmen left camp, going in opposite directions to look for their horses. Neither ever returned. Robles made excuses twice during the day to the others at camp and went off, each time returning with his horse in a lather. The next morning he left, saying he was going back to San Luis. A few days later Lenares, flush with money, was back in town. At last, on December 20, Robles was taken from a gambling den on suspicion of the murder and jailed; Lenares at once went north and warned Powers, who came down on the next steamer and furnished Robles with coffee, liquor and other comforts, at the same time urging Robles' attorney to get him released in some way. The night before the murder, Juan Pedro Olivera, a man of evil deeds, told another rascal what was to take place, mentioning every one in the plot. An Indian told of seeing one of the men murdered, the one found, by two men on horseback with reatas and pistols. One was never found. Robles was tried. He was a Californian, the murdered men only Frenchmen, and the Californians swore to kill every Frenchman in the county if Robles were convicted. W. J. Graves, the best lawyer in the county, was district attorney, but what could he do with a "packed" jury? One jurymen was a fugitive from a murder committed; another, it was later learned, participated in the murder of the cattle buyers.

### Murder at San Juan

The cattle buyers were murdered in the early part of December. In May two more Frenchmen, Bartolo Baratie and M. J. Borel, came down from Oakland to settle on the San Juan ranch, which was forty-five miles from San Luis Obispo, fifteen miles from the Mallah ranch, and six miles from the Comatti. They had two Californians for servants, Ysidoro Silvas and Luis Murillo. On May 10, eight men appeared saying they were horse runners and wanted to buy food. The food was freely given to them. That night they slept in a hut apart from the rest, leaving on the morning of the eleventh. On the twelfth, Miguel Blanco, one of the party, returned saying he was not going to run his horse, and asked if he might unsaddle it there and rest. His request was granted. The Frenchmen were some distance from the house cleaning out a spring. The Californians were a short distance away cutting hay, but out of sight of the Frenchmen. Miguel Blanco stood on a little knoll that commanded a view of both parties. Suddenly he started towards the two Frenchmen. Baratie left his partner and started to go to the servants. Just as he reached them shots were heard from where Blanco and Borel were. The rest of the desperadoes rode up on horseback; and as Baratie appeared, Blanco shot him, wounding him in the shoulder. A ball passed so close to the servant Murillo that it singed his hair. Murillo, Silvas



and Baratie were then bound and driven to the house, where Madam Baratie was threatened with death. The bandits then forced Baratie to show them the trunk the money was in. The captain of the band, Huer Rafael, poured the money, \$2,700, onto a blanket, dividing it into eight piles, which were passed out to the eight murderers, for so they all were. Baratie and his wife begged for mercy and it was promised. Two of the villains, Luciano and Frolian, one of the gang that committed the double murder the December before, but still at large, were told to take Murillo and Silvas off and shoot them. They took them, still bound, some distance, but finally promised not to kill them if they stayed where they were told until dark. The thieves then returned to the rest of the gang. Meantime Baratie and his wife had been taken to a patch of willows. Here Baratie was shot before his wife's eyes. The poor woman covered her husband's body with his cloak and hat, and so he was found.

Luciano returned after taking the servants away and was told off to take Mrs. Baratie to his resort, the "Cuevas." He compelled her to mount a horse and started off, promising her safety. For a week he took her by trails known only to the thieves, and at last arrived at a ranch, the "Pulvaderas," kept by a harbinger of thieves. They stayed there one night, but the terrified woman dared not speak. At last he took her to San Juan, the old settlement near Hollister. She knew he was among accomplices and she held her peace. The house where Luciano left her was about a half mile out from the town and was kept by a fellow named Chavez. From there she took the stage and went to Oakland, let us hope to safety and friends.

About five o'clock Murillo and Silvas went back to the house; Borel lay dead with three shots in his body. They did not find Baratie in the willows. Everything had been rifled and the best clothing was gone. The horses were unmolested save a black horse, and a mare the woman rode. Murillo and Silvas went that night to the Estrella. On the morning of May 13 they went to Captain Mallah's ranch, now known as the Huer-Huero, and told their story. Mallah at once saddled up and came with them to San Luis, where warrants were issued for the murderers as John Doe and Richard Roe. Mallah, Murillo, Silvas and the sheriff walked about the town to see if they could locate any of the murderers. They stumbled on one, Santos Peralta, who was recognized as one of Chico Martinez's band of horse runners. Of course he denied his guilt, but part of the stolen clothing was found on him. He was arrested and jailed, and that night a party of citizens saved the county expense by taking him out and hanging him.

In the morning word was brought to the town that four of the gang were hid in a ravine back of town, where Pio Lenares had a "ranchito" for stolen horses. The sheriff with fifteen men set out to capture them. It was later proven that Lenares went with the gang to murder the two Frenchmen, as far as the San Juan ranch, but left there because the rest would not consent to the murder of the woman. Lenares' motto was "Dead men tell no tales." This was also the saying of Jack Powers. For a week the sheriff and his men hunted the bandits, who on fine horses easily eluded them in the hills. At a ranch, however, they took Joaquin Valenzuela, identified by several as one of the five Love's Rangers were to capture. He was one of Jack Powers' pals, whom he called his "patron." He was hanged in daylight in full sight of the populace, who turned out to a hanging as to a new kind of "fiesta."

Before dying he confessed his guilt. Another party followed on the tracks of Mrs. Baratie and captured Luciano on his return from San Juan. He was brought to town, confessed and was hanged in broad daylight—"fiesta" number two. Mrs. Baratie was brought down from Oakland by Americans and corroborated the testimony of the others in the case.

One June 6, 1858, Jose Antonio Garcia was arrested and confessed to being one of the gang who murdered the two Frenchmen the previous December. In his confession he told of the part Pio Lenares, Jack Powers and Huer Rafael Herrado took, and told of receiving two hundred dollars Powers sent him as his share of the booty. Garcia was hanged at 3 P. M., June 8, another "fiesta"; but now things were getting serious, for justice was being dealt out by the Vigilantes—but that story must be told more fully. On the same night ten men, with twenty horses furnished by the ranchers, set out after the remaining members of the gang. On June 9 another party went to Lenares' "ranchito," and driving in his horses as a preventive measure, started off for Santa Ynez and La Purisima, where the rest were said to be. Pio and his friends were right at hand, however, and saw the party starting, but thought it was two parties. This spelled business; so in the night Lenares and his men left for the immense willow thickets that grew on the Los Osos, then owned by Captain John Wilson. On Thursday morning, June 10, Captain Wilson sent word that one of the gang, Huero Rafael, had given one of his shepherds twenty-two dollars and asked him to get them food. The shepherd gave Wilson the money and information. In about two hours thirty men were in the saddle and off. The men pushed their horses into the willows, but so dense was the growth little could be done. At 3 P. M. fifteen men on foot entered the thicket beating the brush for their men. At length three horses, two saddles and a little bag of provisions were found. Night was near and it was thought best to get out of the woods. Guards were placed, but wide apart, as there were not enough men to circle the place at nearer distances. One guard was shot through the instep. About 10 A. M. the guard was called off, and it was decided to let the bandits get out of the woods and then set the "trackers" on their trail. However, twenty men insisted on taking up the trail in the willows. Soon they found Lenares' saddle bags, and robber and murderer though he was, he carried with him a picture of his wife, which was in one of the bags. In a moment bullets flew, one wounding Lenares through the leg. The pursuers then left the woods and the brush was set on fire; but it was so green it would not burn. Couriers were sent all over the county, and soon one hundred fifty men were on the ground. A close line of guards were set about the willows, through which, all night long, the bandits could be heard breaking their way. In the morning a party of twenty-four men under Captain Mallah crawled on their bellies into the thicket, for shots from the hunted men showed their location. In about fifteen minutes Pio Lenares was shot through the head and Miguel Blanco and Desidero Grijalva taken prisoners. John Matlock, a well-borer from San Jose, was killed and two men wounded, of the pursuing party. The prisoners stated that they had been without food for four days, but Lenares refused to let them surrender. The dead and both sides were brought to town and buried. Monday, June 14, Blanco and Grijalva were hanged at 1 P. M., all hands looking on; but now the "fiestas" were not very gay affairs. Human life is not a thing to see pass

without a tremor, and the Californians of the desperado class knew they were all in close quarters. Some of the better class of Californians assisted the Americans in raiding the bands from the county, notably Romualdo Pacheco.

### Murder of the Read Family

In 1847, a man named Read, wife and daughter, son-in-law, and an old negro servant came to San Miguel, and as the Mission was then regarded as public property, they set up housekeeping in some of the rooms of the old building. When gold was discovered, Mr. Read went to the mines, and in the fall of 1848 returned with several thousand dollars in gold. Read was hospitable and talkative, and showed his "dust" to several people. In October, 1848, a party of sailors, deserters from a ship at Monterey, came to Read's home. He showed his gold and talked freely. The sailors asked to stay all night and permission was given, also food. Mrs. Read had recently been confined, and with her was another woman acting as nurse, besides her grown daughter, son-in-law, their three children, the old negro and Mr. Read. The sailors planned and executed the murder of the entire family, even brained the infant on one of the pillars of the corridor. Of course the gold dust was the incentive for the deed.

The following day John M. Price and F. Z. Branch, on their way home from the mines, stopped to visit the Reads, who were friends of Mr. Price. Calling, and receiving no answer, they dismounted, entered and soon knew of the terrible murder. After making sure that no breath of life remained in any of the bodies, they hastened to the Paso Robles rancho and gave the alarm. One party went north to bury the victims and another south in pursuit of the murderers, whose trail was easily followed. At Carpinteria, or where it now is, close to the beach, the sailors were overtaken. A desperate battle ensued. One of the pursuers was killed and others wounded. All the murderers were shot. One plunged into the surf and tried to swim out to sea. A bullet was sent after him and down he went, food for sea monsters. The others were left where they fell, food for vultures and coyotes. Thus closed one of the greatest criminal tragedies of the state and of this county. What became of the gold dust? Did the pursuers get it?

### Other Crimes

In November, 1855, Isaac B. Wall, collector of the port of Monterey and T. B. Williamson, an officer of Monterey county, were on their way to San Luis Obispo. On the "dark and bloody ground" of the Nacimiento they were waylaid and murdered. No direct trace of the murderers was ever found.

In October, 1853, eight or ten men passed through San Luis Obispo going south and openly boasted of having killed a peddler near San Juan. After being "bad men" here for a few days they stole a lot of horses and left. A party from San Luis Obispo followed them and overtook them in Los Angeles. They had the horses and the stolen goods of the peddler. Three of them were put aboard a boat and started back. At Avila a party with ropes received the gentlemen and there was a triple hanging. One was brought back with the pursuers, some say taken in town. At any rate he also was hanged.

Bodies were found beside the road, north or south of town. Once  
... were found in one place. In 1850, a man named George

Fearless came down from San Francisco with \$2,000, and went into business with Jesus Luna, a Mexican. They established a "ranchito" on the Nacimiento. Soon Fearless disappeared; Luna said he "had gone to the states." Luna sold out cattle, horses, and even the Newfoundland dog and his partner's gold watch, then left for the south. About three months later Fearless' body, or what was left of it, was found near the ranchito. Luna was a pal of Pio Lenares, so the truth is easy to guess. John Gilkey, living on the Comatti ranch, had been killed by the gang who murdered Borel and Baratie, after they left the San Juan ranch. Grijalva confessed that he shot him in the back and Valenzuela dragged him fifty yards with his reata.

### Organizing of a Vigilance Committee

Nieves Robles had been acquitted, though every one knew he was a murderer. The majority of the native Californians either resented or resisted punishing the criminals. Settlers would not come into a county where they were almost sure to meet death on the way. Other portions of the state were filling up with a good class of settlers. Here business was prostrate, life very unsafe and the county known far and wide as a camping ground for countless thieves and murderers. From Monterey to Los Angeles stretched a country full of mountain hiding-places, pleasant pastures for horses, and abundant game. No wonder the bandits gathered here from all over the state. Jack Powers and ex-Judge "Ned McGowan," infamous Americans, who had fled from the San Francisco Vigilantes, came here and organized bands. They plotted and planned most of the crimes, while the natives executed them, alone if the leaders failed to take a hand at the critical moment. The Vigilance Committee of 1858 was the result, and they deserve great praise for the work they did that the courts could not do for lack of evidence, that is, sworn evidence in a court room.

### The Pledge

"The undersigned hereby pledge themselves, each to the other, that in the case of the murder of two Frenchmen, Bartolo Baratie and M. Jose Borel, we will stand together and by all means whatsoever, discover the truth and punish the guilty. The first step shall be the personal restraint and intimidation to the prisoner now in jail, even if necessary to the danger of life. Signed: Walter Murray, Francisco Letora, Francisco Brizzolara, Charles Pellerier, B. Block, P. A. Forrester, Jacob J. Scheifferley, A. Albarrelli, Luis de la Cella, Domingo Garcia, Nicolo Ravello, T. P. Commay, J. J. Simmler, Rudolph Blum, B. F. Hamilton."

### Roll of Members

"The undersigned citizens of San Luis Obispo sign our names as members of a body to be called the San Luis Vigilance Committee, the object of which is and shall be the repression and punishment of crimes by all means whatsoever: Walter Murray, Fred'k Hillard, S. A. Pollard, Thos. Graves, Labat Pere, G. Leemo, P. A. Forrester, Jules Baume, Chas. Johnson, Wm. Coates, Bernardo Lazcano, Jose Cantua, Carl Dietz, Ferdinand Quievreux, Manuel Otero, Thomas Herrera, N. Amos, J. J. Simmler, Thos. R. Thorp, Leonardo Lopez, Ramon Baldez, J. A. de la Guerra, Pedro Ruperez, Trinidad Becerro, John

Matlock, Cayetano Amador, Fabian Dastas, B. P. Brown, Miguel Serrano, A. Farnsworth, Joseph Stutz, Domingo Garcia, Dolores Herrera, Henry Tandee, W. L. Beebee, Daniel McLeod, B. J. Jones, Guadalupe Gonzales, D. P. Mallah, Basilio Castro, John Patton, A. Albarelli, J. T. Zamorano, Ysidro Balderana, Ysidro Silbas, Jerome A. Limas, John Bains, Albert Mann, Calistro Morales, L. H. Morrison, Captain John Wilson, F. Laburthe, Enrique Galindo, Feliz Bueña, A. Elgutter, Estevan Quintana, Jose M. Topete, Inocento Garcia, Didelot, Manuel Serrano, S. Rojas, James White, W. W. Gilfoyle, Blas Castro, Bentura Lopez, F. Wickenden, Chas. Pellesier, F. Martinez, Benjamin Williams, Jose Canet, Luis de la Cella, R. Holford, F. Salgado, Ardadio Borgues, Jesus Olgin, Miguel Herrera, F. W. Slaughter, Nicolo Revello, Chas. W. Dana, Francisco Huanes, A. Cordova, Jose Maria Ordunio, Modesto Carranza, Byron Olney, Lugardo Aguila, W. C. Dana, Antonio Paradeo, James A. Wright, S. O. Sweet, Francisco Brizzolara, D. D. Blackburn, Pedro Ortega, J. A. Chaves, Antonio Capuero, B. Clement, B. F. Davenport, A. Murray, Dr. Ed Albert, Rudolph Selm, A. Mullins, Isaac H. Bunce, G. F. Sauer, Reyes Enriquez, A. Stanwick, Peter Forrester, Robert Johnson, Chas. Varrian, W. J. Graves, John Daley, Juan Stanwick, Ygnacio Esquerre, H. Dallidet, Victorino Chavez, C. Dockes, Manuel Vanegas, William Church, William F. Gilkey, V. Mancillas, A. Herrera, C. G. Abbey, Bonifacio Manchego, B. F. Hamilton, John M. Price, Ricardo Durazo, J. Roth, B. La Rey, I. Mora, J. Garcia, Jose A. Garcia, Mariano Lazcano, Sandy Martin, Francisco Garcia, T. Ph. Schring, Augustin Garcia, Jose Carlon, P. W. Williams, P. Z. Taylor, A. P. Hartnell, Angel Barron, V. Mancillas, William Snelling, Noracio Carroso, Wm. E. Borland, Gabriel Labat, W. C. Imos, James McNicol, J. M. Martinez."

The following subscribed for the expenses of the committee: Murray, \$50; Thomas Herrera, \$50; Albarelli & Co., \$100; Pollard, \$50; Beebee, \$50; Lafayette, \$50; Johnson, \$30; Stone and Barns, \$65; Dr. Thorp, \$25; F. Wickenden, \$30; Davenport, \$40; Elgutter, \$20; Alex Murray, \$25; Pedro Labat, \$5; John Wilson, \$500; Capt. F. Hillard, \$30; Joaquin Estrada, \$200; F. Z. Branch, \$300; Lazcano, \$50; Domingo Garcia, \$10; Fabian Dastas, \$5; Dolores Herrera, \$10; Ramon Valdez, \$10; J. H. Hill, \$10; Simmler & Co., \$20; C. F. Roman, \$20; Lenares, \$50; Letora & Co., \$50; Juan Price, \$50; D. P. Mallah, \$22; Horse, \$37; ditto, \$26; Stanish, \$30; Block & Co., \$25; Dana, \$20. Total amount, \$1,525; disbursements, \$1,487; balance, \$38.

Many more murders were committed besides those mentioned, but the quick work of the Vigilance Committee put a damper on crime and it was less openly boasted of and of much less frequency. The accounts of those crimes from 1850 to 1858, are taken from a series of letters written by Walter Murray in 1858, to the San Francisco Bulletin. He came to San Luis Obispo in 1853, and was from the first a leading citizen, foremost in wiping off the slate of criminality, that for so long had made of the county a safe nest for all sorts of vagabonds. Murders and robberies still occurred, but at longer intervals.

### The Mysterious Disappearance of O. K. Smith

One crime frequently referred to as we gathered data for this history was the disappearance of O. K. Smith. Strange to say, he was always spoken of as assessor and tax collector. The stories varied so in date that

the writer determined to get at the facts, at least of his calling and the date of his disappearance, and so went to the one reliable and accurate source, the files of the Tribune. There we find that in August, 1869, O. K. Smith ran for assessor on the Republican ticket, receiving 393 votes, but James Buffum, Democrat, received 467; as the majority rules, this lets Smith out as assessor. Smith came to the county in 1866 and settled near Cambria. In 1861 he represented Tulare county in the legislature, and had also served as a deputy sheriff in that county. He began farming near Cambria, but being a man of considerable education and ability, he naturally took an active part in county affairs.

The Tribune of June 11, 1870, announced that Governor Morris had appointed O. K. Smith of San Simeon (this name then included all that upper coast country) census marshal of this county. A. M. Hardie worked with Smith taking the 1870 census. February 25, 1871, The Tribune published a letter sent from Cambria and signed by C. Mathers, in which Mathers states that "our friend" O. K. Smith had left Cambria on Friday, February 17, 1871, bound for San Luis Obispo; that a wagon thought to be his had been found on the beach near Morro Rock; and that it was feared that Smith had been drowned. On February 25, 1871, a letter was sent to the Tribune from Morro signed by Smith's Masonic brothers, G. S. Davis, G. Rothschild and G. M. Cole, telling about the same news and asking for help in the search for his body or any trace of him, his team or papers.

March 25, 1871, the following description was printed in the paper: "Two fair-sized strawberry roan mares, bearing the brand of K in a circle or circle K, one a little darker than the other. Gentle to work or ride. Any persons seeing such horses are requested to write to this office or to Z. B. Smith, Cambria. Papers throughout the state please copy." Now we have two facts at least: O. K. Smith was census marshal, not assessor; and he was undoubtedly murdered, February 17, 1871.

One other fact was established. Smith was last seen alive Friday, February 17, 1871, at a saloon and road-house kept by George Stone on the road to San Luis Obispo. It stood on the rocky point just where the Old creek road enters the coast road, where the old unpainted shack now stands up on the rocky hillside to the right going to San Luis Obispo. A. M. Hardie says it was a bad, stormy day; that Smith had a premonition that evil was to befall him and wanted his wife to go with him; also that at Stone's place he asked a man named Rudisill to go on with him, but Rudisill also refused. Mr. Hardie says that Stone and Rudisill helped Smith to harness up when, about two o'clock P. M., he started out on what proved to be his last ride, and that they used rope and wire to fasten the tugs to the whiffletrees. "The horses never got out of those tugs without help," said Mr. Hardie. Of course from the moment the wagon was found, and no trace of the body, the team or harness, foul play was suspected and suspicion placed upon several men now dead. Here are a few of the many stories told the writer.

In those days the farmers often sent their tax money to the office in San Luis Obispo by neighbors going down. This custom yet prevails. One man (we are going to eliminate names) says that after Smith's death men presented receipts given by him to them showing that he had nearly or quite \$600 of tax money with him when he was killed. Certain it is that he had

papers of some census reports, for a boy sixteen years old named Taylor, brother of Charlie Taylor, the present sheriff, found the wagon and a roll of wet papers belonging to Smith. The papers were taken home and dried out. Later some men rode up to the Taylor house and asked for the papers, which the boy gave to them. They were census reports, and Mr. Hardie received them from the boy, and was entitled to them as he was Smith's helper in taking the census. Now for stories weird and otherwise. If they are all just fabrications built upon the facts stated, they show brilliant imaginations and some good novelists have missed their calling. Story number one follows:

A man about to die confessed that he and another man equally well respected were hard up and killed Smith.

Story number two is more elaborate in detail: On the night of Smith's disappearance, a man living on Morro creek went down to dig clams. He saw a fire burning on the beach and, turning back, went up on the bluff where he could see but not be seen. Looking over, he saw two men digging a great hole. They gathered beach wood and built a fire in it, meantime digging another hole. Soon Smith's team, driven by a third man, came around Toro point; Smith was very drunk and was being held in the light wagon. He was knocked on the head, stripped, rolled into hole number two and sand was scooped in on him. All his clothing, his gold watch, the harness from the horses, their halter ropes and the tongue and one wheel from the wagon were thrown upon the fire and burned. When burned down to coals sand was scooped into that hole and all traces of the doings destroyed by scraping and scratching about over the sand. Then the three men tied their own ropes about Smith's horses and led them up the creek to a rocky side cañon and shot them. The narrator said this yarn was told to him by a dying man under a promise of secrecy until after his death, and that it was told to that man by another man. Upon asking why this story was kept secret so long, the man said it would have meant death to the teller had he told it then or while certain other men now dead were living.

This is written not as a fact but because it has thrills in it. It may or may not be true; no one will now ever know. The strange thing was that no trace of the harness or team was ever found. Two skeletons of horses, each with a bullet hole in the skull, were certainly found in a cañon not too far from the beach to have been led there by Smith's murderers. The wagon when found had lost one wheel and the tongue.

At about the place where the wagon was found others had lost their lives in the quicksand in attempting to drive across when the tide was out, but their bodies or some trace of them was always found. There were many suspicious circumstances, or so it seemed, about Smith's disappearance; but one more story, and then we will leave the subject.

Near the entrance to Green valley in an old house lived a man named Kilpatrick. He was the wreck of what had once been a well-educated, well-bred man, and was well acquainted with Smith. One night Kilpatrick on his way to San Luis Obispo camped in the "monte" or patch of willows all are familiar with, just north of Morro on the road to Cayucos. It was a beautiful moonlight night, made more so by a luminous sort of haze. Kilpatrick had just lain down and composed himself when O. K. Smith, or so it seemed to him, walked out of the willows and up to the foot of his shake-down. So

sure was he that it was Smith that he exclaimed, "Where the devil have you been all this time!" Smith stood looking at him in silence for some moments; then turned and disappeared into the willows. This might be called "a psychological moment."

---

## CHAPTER VIII

### The Great Drought. The Early Pioneers

Many things conspired to hold back the development of the county after it became such. The murders and robberies related in the previous pages had much to do with this. Then it was said abroad that all the land in the county good for anything was held in the great grants. We know now that there was much fine land outside the grants, but it was only when a thorough government survey was made that the fact was established. The owners of the grants did not want their ranges interfered with and avoided exact boundaries. All along the coast extended the grants held by Spanish families or the five Americans, Dana, Price, Wilson, Sparks and Branch. Across the mountains were the Blackburn brothers, James and P. W. Murphy, and D. W. James, associated with the Blackburn brothers, who controlled immense tracts. P. W. Murphy had the Santa Margarita, Atascadero and Ascension grants, in all 70,000 acres, by right of purchase from the original grantees, who seemed to have no appreciation of the value of their holdings. The Spanish grantees, no matter what their previous condition, when once they could claim thousands of acres as their own, tried to live in great style. Velvet and broadcloth for the men; silks, satins, laces and jewels for the women. Silver- or gold-trimmed sombreros, trappings for their saddle animals adorned with gold, silver and even costly jewels. The men did no work, unless an occasional interest in counting up the cattle at a lively rodeo could be called work. The women were supposed to manage the household, but Indians and Mexicans did the work. A life of pleasure and ease was all that was sought.

A pioneer woman, who braved great hardships, told the writer of being robbed and begged of the greater part of the supplies her husband brought with them, by members of a Spanish family who wore clothing stiff with gold lace when they went out to a fandango or fiesta. Among the things taken was a bottle of whiskey with garlic in it. This was supposed to cure worms in children. No doubt the "kiddies" were very glad when the bottle disappeared, but it would be interesting to know what the other party thought about his liquor.

In order to live and not work, they eventually mortgaged the grants for large sums. When the mortgages became due, portions of the land were given in payment, and what was left was sold for almost nothing. There were no good roads, no railroads, nor, in spite of seventy miles of sea coast and three or four good harbors, no wharves where schooners or steamers could take on or deliver cargoes. Cattle could be driven off to market, so cattle it was and nothing else. After the gold discoveries the ranges of this section



furnished meat for the miners of the northern section, and so things were until the great drought.

### The Dry Years of 1862-63-64

Usually all the hills and plains were covered with abundant rich grass; wild oats six feet high covered the hills where the grass did not flourish. From the early winter rains to the end of May or June green feed was plentiful. Then the bunch grass ripened and furnished winter feed. No hay was raised, no attempt whatever was made to provide food for the cattle, if Nature failed to do it. At last Nature did fail; while in the East men were fighting the awful battles of the Civil War and meeting death, here on the great ranges hundreds of thousands of cattle were fighting a losing battle with Nature and the long-horned Spanish cattle were literally wiped out of existence. It meant ruin for the cattlemen in some instances, and years of effort to recover from their losses to the rest. Over across the mountains the cattle were driven to the swamps of the Tulare, and many of the herds were saved.

While many grew poor one man at least laid the foundation for his future fortune. J. P. Andrews bought up hundreds of the starving cattle for ten cents each, killed them, boiled them up and fed them to his hogs, which for lack of beef he sold at a high price. Also towards the close of the drought he bought two hundred head of steers for two hundred dollars; and before December he had sold them for just twenty-five dollars per head, a neat little profit of \$4,800. Any one else could have turned the deal. Mr. Andrews had no monopoly on the beef-bones-versus-hogs transaction; but he later loaned his profits at big interest to some of those who looked on while their herds died, and he was called "skinflint." He was not; he was just a keen-witted, hard-working, brainy man, who looked out for chances to make honest money, which he held together while he lived.

Many thousands of cattle and horses were driven over the bluffs into the sea and drowned. The owners could not stand the moanings of their herds, nor bear to see them falling by hundreds before their eyes; for be it known, when starvation pursues the dumb animals, horses and cattle especially, no matter how "wild" they may have been before, they will crowd up to the ranch buildings, asking in their low moaning cries for food. Julian Estrada of the Santa Rosa grant drove hundreds of his cattle and horses over the bluffs into the sea up near Cambria. When the creatures are almost gone, they will form a circle, heads to the center, and, by pressing against one another, hold each other up. When one drops, the circle narrows. In 1898-99, a "dry year" brought suffering and loss to many in the northern half of this county and Monterey county. We saw a few years later on several ranches these circles of cattle-skeletons, and were told how they came to be there.

When the grass grew again, after the great drought, it grew up through the skeletons and around the bleached bones of the Spanish cattle. The cattle were gone, and few had money to restock their ranches. They must turn their attention to other ways of making money; so they began to think of cultivating the land. Some maintain the drought was a blessing, for it ridded the county of the long-horned, rangy Spanish cattle and started agriculture. If it blessed some, it was certainly not a blessing to a good many others. Now the cattle were dead, the land likely to be sold cheap, the criminals reduced to a fair average with other communities, settlers began coming in and

of course other things followed. Roads in time were built, wharves came as a matter of course, and later railroads. We will write of these in another chapter, but in this speak of the very early pioneers of the late sixties and early seventies, and of the conditions they met and overcame.

In a previous chapter we spoke of Rufus Burnett Olmstead, who was the first American settler in Green valley. Mr. Olmstead was a man of education, helped establish schools, and was at one time supported by his friends for county superintendent of schools. The Olmstead school in Green valley was built on his land and was named for him.

### A Pioneer Woman

In March, 1868, Mr. and Mrs. Neal Stewart arrived from San Francisco, coming originally from Canada. They came by boat and were landed at Port San Simeon. Mrs. Stewart carried in her arms her oldest child, James, then a baby about a year old. The waves were tossing whitecaps. The steamer came to anchor well out from shore, a ladder was lowered to a small boat, and Mrs. Stewart, with her child in her arms, clambered down into the tossing rowboat. The surf was so bad, the waves so rough, that as soon as the boat came in close enough, two men carried Mrs. Stewart and her baby ashore. Mr. Stewart rented two rooms in the big adobe house of Julian Estrada, located on the Santa Rosa grant. It stood near the corner where the road from Green valley now joins the Cambria road. One room was weatherproof, but the other was only partly roofed. They brought with them supplies of groceries and food enough to last for some time, but Mrs. Stewart says it was a problem to keep it, especially the "poppas"—potatoes. Mr. Stewart homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in Green valley and later pre-empted one hundred sixty more. The Stewarts brought with them the sterling principles and sincere Christianity of their Scotch ancestry. They were in a wilderness devoid of schools or churches, but the family altar was set up and no lack of parental training or authority was ever let interfere with the upbringing of their children. Mrs. Stewart did all the work, washing, cooking, sewing, and successfully mothered and reared ten children. She had no near neighbors and little time for what nowadays are called "social duties," which so often seem to replace all other duties. However, if a woman were to go through the throes of childbirth, or a child, or man, or any human being were ill, this woman left her home, carrying her baby along, if it couldn't be left, mounted her horse and rode any distance through any sort of weather to minister to the one in need. On horseback she rode to church with the baby in front and the one next in order behind.

When on rare occasions church services were held in a schoolhouse at Cambria or elsewhere, she attended; the stranger or acquaintance was always made welcome, and kindness and charity were shown to all in need. When the children were old enough to go to school and none was within reach, Mr. Stewart moved over onto Toro creek, where he gave ground for a school yard. Others were coming in, and there at Fairview school the ten Stewart children received their grammar school education. In turn they were given the advantages of higher education. Four are graduates of the university, and others of normal schools. One daughter, Dr. Mary Marshall, has been a medical missionary to India for many years. Another daughter, Katherine, was also a missionary in India, where she died, in May,

1917, from an attack of diphtheria, a disease almost unknown there. Her brother John died early in June, 1917, and word of her death was received a few days later. All are filling places of honor and trust. One daughter, Helen, a beautiful girl, died just in the flush of early womanhood in 1902. In 1904, Mr. and Mrs. Stewart, with the unmarried children, came to live in San Luis Obispo, renting their ranch of four hundred seventy-five acres on Toro creek to a Swiss for dairying purposes. Mr. Stewart died December 24, 1915, but "Mother Stewart," as she is known to so many, now a frail old lady, still lives at the family home on Monterey street.

There were many women of sterling worth among those who came about the time Mrs. Stewart did. The families settled mainly in the little valleys, each with its creek running to the sea. In Harmony valley, Alexander Cook, father of Mrs. Stewart, settled, bringing with him a family of sons and daughters who have made worth-while citizens. There were the Buffington families, the Leffingwells, the Hazards, Swains, Kesters, Freemans, Floods, Taylors, Brians, Van Gordons, Rectors, Wallaces, Hardies, Mayfields, Hills, McPhersons, Murphys, Cass's, McFaddens, Archers, Harolds, Bickells, Petersens, De Nises, Yorks, Hudsons, Whitakers, Kingerys, Mables, Langlois's, Stockings and many others who lived along the coast or in the valleys along the creeks between San Simeon and Morro. The O'Connors, Wardens, Steeles and Hollisters lived near San Luis Obispo. Musick, Fink, Hasbrouck, Newsom, Fowler, Ryan and Branch were names of early settlers about Arroyo Grande. Across the mountains were the Blackburns, Murphys, James's, and Henry Wilson and others who ranched there before the coming of the Southern Pacific Railroad in 1886. Then many others came, settling in the towns of San Miguel, Paso Robles, Templeton, and Santa Margarita, and buying up the farming tracts into which the large landholdings were then divided.

Going back to the old records of from 1850 up, we find these men holding prominent offices: William J. Graves, county judge in 1852. The first board of supervisors was composed of John Wilson, Francis Z. Branch, Joaquin Estrada, William G. Dana, S. A. Pollard. At the first meeting, December 13, 1852, Dana was found disqualified, as he held the office of county treasurer, and William L. Beebee was appointed to take the place. Parker H. French was appointed district attorney with a salary of \$500 per year. W. J. Graves was also sent to the legislature as senator and assemblyman at different times. Alexander Murray, Walter Murray, D. F. Newsom, H. M. Osgood, F. Wickenden, J. J. Simmler, J. M. Havens, F. E. Darke, P. W. Murphy, S. P. Mallard, C. W. Dana, Levi Rackliffe, D. C. Norcross, A. M. Hardie, McD. R. Venable, R. R. Harris, L. M. Warden, Nathan King, W. J. Oaks, Romauldo Pacheco, A. C. McLeod, all held offices of trust for the people before 1883, and in the years immediately following. The writer has written letters to some of the pioneer men and women still living, and seen a few in personal interviews, and many interesting facts are gleaned.

J. B. Kester gives these items in a letter dated September 30, 1916. In 1868, Mr. Kester settled on Old creek. A few Spanish families and one or two American families were already living along the creek and must have been there for some time; for Mr. Kester says one of the first jobs he had there was putting new roofs on some of the houses. These first settlers soon sold out and moved away. The Packwood family, William Munn,

Wash and Samuel James were living on Old creek prior to Mr. Kester's going there. There were but two orchards in the valley, one owned by Mr. Munn, but with the second influx of families many orchards were set out about the year 1870. When they came into bearing, the fruit was of the finest in flavor and size. The now famous Glenbrook orchard, owned by the late Captain Cass, is near the headwaters of Old creek, but on the coast side of the mountain range, where moisture and heat are controlled by the fogs and breezes of the ocean. School was kept in a private house and the expenses borne by the settlers until, in 1869, a small schoolhouse was built by subscriptions. Miss Annie Packwood taught in the private house and James F. Beckett was the first teacher in the little new school building. Many wild animals, bears, mountain lions, coons, wildcats, coyotes and foxes were to be reckoned with. Cattle thieves raided the country—"about as many thieves as cattle," says Mr. Kester, for the country was still suffering from the great cattle loss of the big drought. There were no fences, and plenty of hiding-places in the mountains; so the thieves generally got away with the cattle unmolested. The lions killed many young horses and fine colts. Mr. Kester lost two of his own, and one belonging to his neighbor, which he was pasturing. Mr. Kester was a trustee of Central school for twenty-five years. Twenty-two years of this time he was clerk of the board. He was supervisor from his district from 1890 to 1898, and deputy United States census marshal in 1900. O. K. Smith is referred to by almost every old-timer interviewed. Mr. Kester thinks Smith never collected taxes on Old creek or in the county. He thinks Dave Norcross, sheriff at the time of Smith's disappearance, collected taxes, appointing the time and place where taxes might be paid that had not been paid directly into the sheriff's office. The fact, if such it was, that Smith was not collecting taxes, was not so fully known that it saved him from being murdered or at least "disappearing." The "O. K. Smith mystery" bids fair to "bob up" anywhere, at any time, all through the succeeding pages.

### G. W. Hampton

Mr. Hampton now lives with his wife and one daughter in a pleasant home on Broad street, San Luis Obispo, and has always resided in this town since coming here in 1869. He was born July 12, 1832, in Washington county, Va., and is now eighty-four years old, but quite hale and hearty, and his mind seems as alert as it ever was. Mrs. Hampton is seventy-seven. The couple were married in Napa county, October 3, 1866, her maiden name being Julia Hudson. Mr. Hampton was a carpenter by trade and worked on all the good buildings put up in the town in the early days. One of those is the building now occupied by the San Luis Implement Company, on the corner of Higuera and Chorro streets. He was tax collector in Napa county and supervisor in this county for three years. When he came to San Luis he bought eighty acres of land adjoining Charles Johnson in the Stenner creek valley; Judge Venable owned an eighty-acre tract beyond the eighty, between Hampton and the Venable place. Ned Morris bought these eighty acres for \$4,000, and sold out soon to a man named Wheeler for \$15,000. This was in the late seventies, or early eighties, when the residents of the town in some way started a boom. There was another of those eruptions just about the time the Southern Pacific entered the county, when property

changed hands for high prices. An old adobe ruin now used as a Chinese wash house was once pointed out to the writer by a man who paid \$9,000 for the "corner" and shortly sold it for \$16,000. It is still adorned by the adobe and is a dumping ground apparently for old boxes. Mr. Hampton says he is the oldest living Odd Fellow, or has been a member of the local lodge longer than any one else now residing here. He joined Napa Lodge No. 18 in 1855. In 1869, when Mr. Hampton came to San Luis, there was but one dwelling south of San Luis creek. That was the old Dallidet adobe in the midst of its vineyard. Mr. Dallidet was French and married a Spanish lady. He took an active part in civic life during the early days.

### P. W. Murphy

This gentleman has already been referred to as the owner of 70,000 acres of land at or near Santa Margarita. He erected a fine home for those days, and took an active part in the social and business life of the county. The Atascadero Colony is on a part of his former holdings, and the Reis estate, comprising 20,806 acres, once belonged to him. His brother James was associated with him, owning the Atascadero ranch in the early eighties and later.

### Messrs. James and D. D. Blackburn

These men owned the Paso Robles rancho; they came to California in 1849, and to this county in 1857, and with Lazarus Godchaux bought the rancho of Petronillo Rios. It comprised six leagues of land, 25,993.18 acres, including the now famous Paso Robles Hot Springs, and they paid \$8,000 for it. In 1860, the firm divided and D. D. Blackburn took one league, upon which were the springs. In 1860, he sold a half interest to Mr. McCreel, who resold it in 1865 to D. W. James for \$11,000; and in 1873, he sold a one-fourth interest to James Blackburn. D. D. Blackburn was a member of the Vigilance Committee of 1858, and acted as sheriff for that body, the regularly elected sheriff taking a back seat while the Vigilantes cleaned up the county and drove out the notorious desperadoes, or hung them up on trees or the old iron arch of the jail gate.

James Blackburn raised sheep and cattle, and invested in property in San Luis Obispo. The old Cosmopolitan Hotel, which had for a beginning a small adobe building put up for a saloon, was his property. He enlarged it until it became a fine hotel; Ned Morris was the manager most of the time. The home of the Blackburns was, until 1872, a big adobe house with iron-barred doors and windows, that was built by the padres of San Miguel Mission, for the mission lands extended to an indefinite line near the present town of Santa Margarita. This old adobe was used for store rooms and laborers' quarters after the erection of the wooden structure that was the ranch house when the rancho was divided in 1887 and sold to eager buyers; for now the Southern Pacific had reached Templeton. The old adobe stood close to the newer home, which was surrounded by lawns and an orchard that bore delicious fruit, especially cherries. The tiles of the old adobe were sold to help roof the depot at Burlingame, and only a few yards of crumbling wall now stand close beside the highway to mark the place where once stood one of the landmarks for close to one hundred years. James Blackburn never married, but D. D. Blackburn and D. W. James married sisters, Celia

and Louisa Dunn. The marriages were a double wedding on September 15, 1866, and occurred in San Luis Obispo, Rev. Father Sastre officiating.

For a few years after 1887, the Blackburn family continued to live on the ranch, but Mrs. Blackburn and the children finally went to Paso Robles, where a big modern house was built, which was their home for some years. After the death of James Blackburn, there were many lawsuits brought by some of the D. D. Blackburn children for portions of the estate, which had been willed to Mrs. D. D. Blackburn and certain of the children. As usual, the lawyers' fees ate up large portions, and this was a case where money seemed to be a curse. The Blackburn home in Paso Robles was bought, after Mrs. Blackburn went to the bay cities to reside, by Dr. J. H. Glass and used as a sanitarium until he died there a few years ago. It is now the property of Rollo Heaton and is occupied by himself and family as a residence. The towns of Paso Robles and Templeton are built on the Blackburn rancho.

### D. W. James

This man's connection with the county history is so interwoven with that of the Blackburns that little need be separately written. He built a good home in Paso Robles in 1871, which still stands amid its trees close to the Paso Robles Hotel grounds. The Blackburns were natives of Virginia, but James was a Kentuckian. He served all through the war with Mexico, and in 1849 crossed the plains, mining at Hangtown, Weber and other camps until the spring of 1850, when he began buying cattle, steers, at twenty dollars each in Santa Clara county, driving them to the mines at Hangtown and selling them on the hoof at sixty cents per pound, or one dollar a pound if he killed and retailed them. Talk about the "high cost of living"! Later he bought cattle as far south as Los Angeles, at one time driving fifteen hundred head from there to the mines. In 1860, with John D. Thompson, he bought 10,000 acres of government land on the La Panza and stocked it with 2,500 head of cattle. His neighbors were Robert G. Flint at the San Juan ranch, Briggs on the Comatti, and Slaven at French camp, a sort of trappers' camp, some say, also a resort for cattle thieves, over on the eastern border of the county. At the time of the great drought he had 5,000 head of cattle which he drove to Tulare and Buena Vista lakes, saving them all. James stopped at Paso Robles springs on a cattle-buying trip in 1851, and it was he who first made the place a resort. The James family were prominent in the new town of Paso Robles, which came into existence along with the toot of the railroad whistle in 1886-87. The Blackburn brothers, D. W. James and all their "neighbors" of those very early days have gone over the "Great Divide," but they lived up to the times and had the courage of strong men. All were kind and open-hearted.

### John H. Hollister

The Hollister family has been prominent in ranching interests in several counties of the state. Hollister in San Benito county is named for the family. In 1866 John H. Hollister, then ten years of age, came with his parents to this county, and in time went to ranching on the large property owned by his father near Morro. A big adobe still stands on the old Hollister ranch, "Morro Castle." April 12, 1880, he married Miss Flora M. Stocking of

Morro. In 1879, he was elected supervisor, being at the time only twenty-three years old; but he is said to have been the man for the place just the same. In 1882, he was elected to the assembly on the Republican ticket. He was sent to the legislature to get measures passed protecting the dairymen from competing with oleomargarine and other manufactured stuff being placed on the market as butter. He succeeded in having the anti-oleomargarine law passed; also laws to exterminate fruit pests and combat diseases of fruit trees. He lived on El Chorro ranch, and owned a ranch south of town for some years. Later, the family residence was in town. In 1906, Mr. Hollister was elected assessor, and again in 1910. He died on November 7, 1913, a man with many friends. He was a member of the Masons, Knights of Pythias, Elks and Woodmen. His funeral was one of the largest ever held in the county. He is buried in the Odd Fellows cemetery of San Luis Obispo. His son, W. M. Hollister, finished out his father's term as assessor and was appointed deputy assessor, which office the young man fills with the very best results to the county.

#### Charles H. Johnson

Coming to this county first as deputy collector of customs in 1852, Mr. Johnson came here to reside permanently in 1856, purchasing land on Stenner creek just west of town on the Morro road. He had visited China, India, the islands of the Pacific, and was on his way with a cargo of goods for the Orient when, learning of the discovery of gold, he turned about and entered the port of San Francisco. The goods were sold at a big profit and Mr. Johnson went into the mercantile business. He was a heavy loser in each of three big fires that swept that town, one on May 4, 1850, another June 14, 1850, and the third May 3, 1851. No insurance was collected and Mr. Johnson was financially "broke." He was appointed inspector of customs at Monterey and later at Port San Luis. He retained that office until 1860, when he gave it up to take his seat in the legislature as assemblyman. In 1859, when the town government of San Luis Obispo was organized, Mr. Johnson was elected president of the board of trustees, and up to the time of his death was prominent in all business and social life. He acquired valuable property, but will go down in history as a man whose literary ability contributed many valuable lectures, and articles for publication, on the history of the county. From his writings many interesting facts have been gleaned for this volume. C. H. Johnson was a member of the Vigilance Committee of 1858. He died on April 8, 1915.

#### Myron Angel

This man was a fluent speaker and writer, having been educated at West Point. With his brother, Eugene, he came to California in the forty-nine rush, made and lost in the mines, and finally turned his talents to establishing newspapers, in which he was successful. He once said: "I mine for a fortune, but write for a living." He prepared many reports on mining and wrote several histories. The only previous history of this county, published in 1883 by an Oakland firm, was prepared by Myron Angel, and is a fine book for the period it covers.

January 12, 1883, Mr. Angel purchased an interest in the San Luis Obispo Tribune, writing many fine articles for publication. He took much

interest in educational matters, and it was largely through his efforts that the State Polytechnic School was established here. He spent two entire winters in Washington presenting the claims of this county for an appropriation for a breakwater at Port Harford, and paid his own expenses for the entire time, save for one hundred dollars which the citizens sent him during the second winter. A little money now and then was useless, for no firm would go to the expense of buying machinery to get out the rock from Morro Rock, and boats to convey it to the breakwater, on such uncertainties; so Mr. Angel thought out the plan of getting a bill through Congress for a "continuous appropriation," which meant a certain sum year after year, so that a reliable firm could be secured to take the contract. Caminetti and Perkins were in Congress then from California. Of course the thing would have to be got through them. Caminetti applauded the idea and consented to work for it, but he said Oakland harbor had to get aid first, and then he would push it for our harbor; so with that Mr. Angel had to be content. Our harbor got the second "continuous appropriation" and the breakwater was built. This year, however, Congress refused to make an appropriation for the harbor, and why? Because, Congress says, it will no longer make appropriations for a harbor that is of use only to a private corporation, the Pacific Coast Railway. Mr. Angel's scrap-books containing articles from his pen have been asked for by the state library and are now there. Mr. Angel died in June, 1911, but his name will live on in the history of this county and state.

#### Henry M. Osgood

A native of New York state, Henry M. Osgood was born September 21, 1828. At the age of eighteen he joined Stevenson's regiment of volunteers, designed for service and settlement in California, arriving in the state during the spring of 1847. After the war between the Californians and the Americans, in which Fremont played such a prominent part, Henry M. Osgood entered the service of the state as an express rider, or mail carrier, and made trips through this section. In 1850, he settled in the county on the Arroyo Grande, later moving to San Luis Obispo, where he kept a jewelry store. He was elected assemblyman in 1857, was justice of the peace and associate judge, held many other offices, and was a member of the Vigilance Committee of 1858. He was a popular man and a member of the first temperance societies established in the county. He died in December, 1882, and the I. O. G. T. lodge passed resolutions of respect signed by C. H. Woods, H. P. Flood and D. M. Meredith, which shows where these three gentlemen stood on the "booze" question.

#### C. H. Phillips

A native of Ohio, born in Medina county, July 5, 1837, C. H. Phillips came to California and taught school in Napa county. He studied law, was deputy county clerk of Napa county, and chief deputy collector of internal revenue of the fifth district for five years. Later, he was chief deputy for the second district, and when that was consolidated with the first, he remained chief, handling about \$5,000,000 annually, without bonds. In 1871 he came to this county and, with H. M. Warden, E. W. Steele, George Steele, P. W. Murphy, J. P. Andrews, Hugh Isom, D. W. James, M. Gilbert, John Harford,



W. L. Beebee, James H. Goodman and I. G. Wickersham, organized the Bank of San Luis Obispo—the first bank in the county. H. M. Warden was president and Mr. Phillips cashier. In August, 1875, came the great panic, and the Bank of California, the financial dictator of the coast, failed. The news was telegraphed to Mr. Phillips, but he posted a notice that his bank would meet all obligations, met the anxious callers with perfect calm, and so saved a run on the bank which would have spelled ruin. The Phillips residence was in the northern part of the town, set in large grounds. On the evening of April 1, 1878, Mr. Phillips answered a ring at the door. A suspicious character asked him to come outside. Mr. Phillips started to close the door, when the villain struck at his breast with a long knife. After a struggle he released himself and managed to slam the door shut. One of his little girls followed him into the hall and witnessed the affair. A bright light was burning in the hall, and Mr. Phillips and his daughter were able to describe two of the gang who were just outside the door. Four were arrested and convicted of robbery, as that was their business—two Mexicans, one Swiss and a Frenchman. In 1878, Mr. Phillips retired from the bank and entered the real estate business with P. H. Dallidet, Jr. In 1878 he purchased the Morro y Cayucos rancho of 8,100 acres, laid out the town of Cayucos and sold off the tract in smaller ranches. In 1882, he sold a large amount of land for the Steele brothers. In September of that year he bought the Corbett tract of 1,900 acres for \$8,000, and in ninety days sold it for \$16,000. Later he sold the San Miguelito rancho; and when the Southern Pacific Railroad entered the county in 1886, the West Coast Land Company was organized, with C. H. Phillips as manager. He sold the Paso Robles rancho, laid out the town of Templeton, and built a fine home there, where his family and he resided for several years. Later he sold the Chino ranch in the southern part of the state, and one of the Murphy ranches in Santa Clara county, laying out the towns of Morgan Hill and San Martin. In this county he also sold a tract of land about Shandon, but the town never got very far on the way to a big city. Mr. Phillips finally went to San Jose to live, after years of great successes and many failures. He made and lost money, but died just comfortably well off. No man ever had more to do with real estate transactions and general interests here than C. H. Phillips while he lived in this county.

### J. J. Simmler

A native of France, born July 18, 1826, J. J. Simmler learned the painter's trade, and to perfect his business, traveled much in France, Germany, Switzerland and other countries, learning the craft as it was practiced in other places. His father was a pupil of the great school teacher and reformer, Pestalozzi, and passed on to his son many of the views he received from the master teacher. In February, 1847, he started out for the New World and landed in Texas. In May, 1852, he started for the gold fields of California, crossing the plains of Mexico and taking passage on a sailing vessel for San Francisco. A period of calms held the ship at sea, and rations giving out, seven of the passengers died of starvation. At last, after two months, the ship made the Port of San Luis, and Mr. Simmler concluded to go no farther. He worked at his trade, was in charge of the St. Charles Hotel of San Luis Obispo for two years, was a member of the Pollard &

Simmler firm, and in 1872 was appointed postmaster of San Luis Obispo, holding the office until 1890. There is a postoffice named for him over in the eastern section of the county, so named because he took great interest in getting it established. Mr. Simmler died in February, 1906, and is buried in San Luis Obispo.

### J. W. Slack

The life story of J. W. Slack reads like one of Stevenson's tales, and confirms the statement, "Truth is stranger than fiction." Mr. Slack has the build of a hero—tall, of commanding presence, fine-looking and with an eye that compels one to look straight at him. Kentucky never sent a braver son to California than when, in 1854, young Slack, then in his twenty-first year, said good-bye and started for El Dorado, the land of gold. He crossed the plains and reached Hangtown in October, 1854. He went to mining in Diamond Spring, struck it rich, and for a while took out from \$2,000 to \$4,000 a day. He mined about two months, and when he had cleaned up \$200,000, he resolved to go back home. He sailed from San Francisco on the "Yankee Blade." This vessel carried an immense amount of gold and was bound for Panama. When off the coast of Point Concepcion the vessel was run ashore by the officers and wrecked on the rocks close to the shore. No doubt of this remains. The captain and first mate were seen in a boat together when boats were lowered for all hands to go ashore, but they never came ashore, at least not where the rest did.

Much money was spent by the government to raise the treasure chest, but when it came up and was opened, no treasure was there. Slack's gold went with the rest, and all believed it went with the missing officers, who kept themselves well lost for years; but Mr. Slack says he heard of one of them being seen in New York, very opulent, many years later. Young Slack "went wild" when he realized what had been done to him and the rest, and was almost a madman, flourishing his revolver and vowing vengeance on the scurvy officers.

The day after the wreck another vessel called and took the passengers to Panama. Slack went from Panama back to the mines, but his big luck was gone, and he only made a modest sum at mining in his second venture. The second attempt was at a place known as Burns's Barley Field. Here his partner was William Morrell, a shoemaker from New Hampshire.

In 1858, Mr. Slack married Miss Ellen Kamp at San Jose. He bought cattle and came to this county. His range was in what is now known as Slack's cañon, northeast of San Miguel. Mrs. Slack's father and a brother were here in the county, and in 1862 J. W. Slack sold out his cattle and came to the town of San Luis Obispo, then a little collection of adobe huts clustered about the Mission.

The San Miguel Mission Indians had evidently planted an orchard years before near Slack's cañon, for some old pear trees stood near by. Othar Kamp, a brother-in-law, set out an orchard on his ranch near town, and remnants of the old orchard still stood a few years ago. All about San Luis Obispo was government land, but unsurveyed. Mr. Slack settled on two hundred acres just north of town, lying in between where the Polytechnic School lands and George Andrews' home on Monterey street now are. Eventually, Mr. Slack sold the land to C. H. Phillips, and part or all of it became

Slack's addition to San Luis Obispo. Mr. Slack plowed and sowed wheat, and as loose stock roamed all over the country, he found it necessary to drive off cattle and threaten to shoot them if they were not kept off. He was an offense to most of the inhabitants. His wife was, like himself, an American. The Spanish, more properly the Mexicans, wanted this county for a cattle country and resented the wheat-raising and the call for fencing; so, after several vain attempts to torment Slack into leaving, they set a price of \$250 on his life. "Any 'Mex' who could get me was to get \$250," said the old gentleman when talking to the writer.

In those days gambling was as legitimate a business as raising cattle or wheat. Alexander Murray had a gambling house in town, and he struck a bargain with the "big American," who was afraid of nothing on earth and could play "bagatelle" as well as he could do other things—shoot, if it came to a show-down, and never miss. So Murray agreed to pay Slack \$20 a night. He was to play for the house; if he won a big stake, he only got \$20; if he lost, he got \$20.

The Mexicans had tried various schemes to obtain that reward of \$250, but so far had failed. Early one morning Slack was going home from Murray's "place." He says: "Something told me not to follow the trail at the foot of the hill. I called myself a coward and tried to go on, but I couldn't, so I took off my shoes and went around up above the trail and got behind a big rock. Looking over, I saw three Mexicans laying for me, one above the trail lying behind a rock, and two down below behind rocks. I covered them with my gun, then picked up little stones and began pelting them. They sprang up, and when they saw me (I was higher than the rock I stood behind), they saw my gun, too, and they just tumbled down the hill. I knew them"—he gave the names here—"and that afternoon I got on my horse and rode to where I knew I would meet ———. He was on his horse, too. I said to him: 'You meant to get me this morning; now one of us has got to be shot. I won't shoot you on your horse. Get off, and draw your gun.' He slid off his horse and held up his hands, gun and all. I told him to measure the ground and take his place, for we were going to shoot. At last he fell on his knees, fairly groveled, and said he'd leave the country. I told him if he were here the next day I would shoot him, and I never saw him again. I corralled the other two and told them what I had told ———, and they agreed to go to Sonora, and did. At any rate, they left, and that ended the shooting business." This is just what another old-timer told me about Mr. Slack. In concluding, he said: "Slack was a powerful man, and not afraid of the devil himself."

The next job was to accuse Slack of having shot a man named Sinoles up at San Jose Mission. The Mexicans got word sent to the sheriff, Moss, that here at San Luis Obispo lived John Wilson, alias Slack, the man who shot Sinoles. John Wilson took up government land that Sinoles claimed as his, but had no atom of title to. He harried Wilson in many ways, at last came to his cabin, tore off the door and with his reata dragged it off. He came back, shot at Wilson, and then attempted to throw his reata over him—the old game, "dragged to death" at the end of a reata, while the fellow in the saddle spurred his horse over rocks and brush. Sinoles missed in his intention, but wounded Wilson in the arm. Wilson went to a friend and got the wound dressed; then went on and met Sinoles coming from

his house on horseback. He shot Sinoles and disappeared. Moss, the Alameda sheriff, came down to arrest Wilson, alias Slack, and lined up the sheriff of this county, de la Guerra, to go with him. Mr. Slack was going into town on horseback carrying some plowshares to be sharpened. Just about where the old "Pavilion" now stands in San Luis Obispo, Slack came face to face with the posse. Moss, the Alameda county sheriff, stepped out and said to Slack, "You are my prisoner." Slack demanded an explanation, and the local officials urged him "not to make a fuss." A "fuss" with Slack was no funny thing—especially when the "fuss" had no foundation.

Slack at last agreed to talk things over, but refused to have "irons" put on him, and suggested that the Alameda man go with him to the jail and there tell him what he was arrested for. To cut the story short, Slack agreed to go to Oakland for trial. Othar Kamp warned the outfit that if they tried to take Slack away in "irons," handcuffed, he would shoot them. When the time came to go, they did put on the "irons." Slack said he wanted them to do all they could, for he knew his day was coming. True to his word, Kamp was on hand and ready to shoot, but his friends overpowered him and took his gun until the stage got off. With Mr. Slack went Mr. Kamp, his father-in-law. The Cuesta grade was wet and slippery and all hands were ordered to get out and help push the stage uphill. Slack and Kamp refused to get out. Mr. Slack said to the officers: "You are taking me to Oakland on a false charge, and you know it; I'm going, but I ride," and ride he did, as well as did Kamp, while the officials pushed.

At Gilroy a number of Slack's friends from in and about Slack's cañon had gathered, were armed and let him understand that they were there to take him from the officers if he would go, but Mr. Slack said he had no desire to go. He wanted to be entirely cleared of the Sinoles affair. The handcuffs were taken off while he ate dinner, and he refused to have them put on again. He told Moss not to interfere with him, for he would take no more indignities from him. In San Francisco, Moss refused to let Mr. Slack get a witness he wanted, William Morrell, who had mined with him. Twenty-one "greasers" were introduced as witnesses by Moss, and each swore that Slack was John Wilson. In the jail, when Moss brought one in to identify Slack as Wilson, he overheard Moss tell him in Spanish that he had got to swear that this man was Wilson. "But Wilson had lost a front tooth, and this man has all his teeth," said the greaser. Slack later told Moss that he thought it only fair to tell him that he both understood and spoke Spanish. Moss slunk off; but \$4,000 reward was offered for Wilson, and lie though he must have known it to be, he went on trying to turn Slack into Wilson. For three weeks the farce went on. Men of the best-known probity came voluntarily from San Jose, also in time came Morrell, and testified that Slack was Slack, and no one else. Also, it turned out that Mr. Slack was in St. Louis, just ready to start across the plains, thirteen years before, when Sinoles was killed. At last the judge addressed the court, saying: "This thing shall go no farther. That man is not Wilson, and you all know it. I declare him a free man." Mr. Slack came back to San Luis Obispo, and thereafter was unmolested.

His wife, Ellen Kamp Slack, died of pneumonia and her death is reported in the first issue of the Tribune, August 7, 1869. There were five little children to be taken care of, and Mr. Slack went with them to their mother's

people in San Jose. Later he returned and went on ranching. Some time after this false arrest, the real John Wilson saw an account of the matter in a paper and wrote to Mr. Slack from Arizona, saying he was married, had children, and shot Sinoles in self-defense, but left, for he knew that among the greasers at San Jose Mission he stood no chance for fair play. Mr. Slack sent the letter on to Moss.

On his ranch at San Luis Obispo he continued to farm. He says he always managed, during the awful drought, to keep salt on hand to use in seasoning the beans. Many others did without salt, and almost everything else. During the dry years, when no cultivated crops can be grown, the oak trees bear great crops of acorns, and many bushes yield abundance of berries. The bears were rolling fat during 1862-63-64, when cattle died of starvation; and men hunted the bears for meat. When it became possible to raise wheat again, many sowed it, and it was threshed out by flails or trampled out by bands of horses, and then tossed in the air to be winnowed. It was ground, or pounded in a mortar; or one stone was made to fit into another slightly hollowed, and was turned by hand to crush the wheat. Later the first mills were built. The Mexicans used a forked stick to scratch the ground, but the Americans, as soon as possible, introduced plows. The first reaper in the county was brought in by Mr. Slack, and he also ran the first threshing machine around San Luis Obispo.

In 1875, Mr. Slack was farming near Morro bay, and from the Tribune we copy this item, dated October 11, 1875: "J. W. Slack brought in a cabbage the other day grown at the head of Morro bay and tried to put it on our office table. It measured three feet nine inches in circumference, ten inches from top to stem, and weighed twenty-nine and one-half pounds. It was solid and fine, although of great size." There were no bridges in those days, and Augustus Slack tells of going with his father and the family to attend a celebration held on Old creek, the Fourth of July celebration referred to in writing of Cambria, and of how his father had to take one of the horses and go across the mouth of the creek first on horseback to see if it would be possible to drive the wagon over, then come back and drive over. All went well until they tried driving up the cañon to the picnic grounds. On the slanting grade the wagon upset and "Gus" went into the creek. He was just a little boy, his picnic clothes were sadly mussed, and the first part of his celebration was being set behind a bush while his clothes were dried out; but the rest of it was exciting, all that a Fourth of July should be, and it occupied at least three days—one to go, one to celebrate and one to get back home.

Mr. Slack not only farmed, but worked in the Tribune office binding books, and his son, Augustus, worked there for years setting type and gathering up information which later he worked up into interesting stories for publication. Some very good poems also came from his pen.

In 1882, Mr. Slack married Miss Mary J. Dunning, and by this marriage there were three children, two daughters and one son. This son, David, was killed in an automobile accident near Stockton in July, 1911, when eighteen years of age. The other children are all living and are: Mrs. Maggie Oaks of Los Angeles, Mrs. Carrie Priest of Alameda, Mrs. Annie Pool of Arroyo Grande, Benjamin of San Jose, Augustus of San Luis Obispo, Mrs. Venona Englander of the Huer-Huero, and Miss Arley Slack, who resides with her parents on their pleasant ranch five miles south of Creston.

Mr. Slack was eighty-three on June 12, 1916. He is a hale, handsome old gentleman, drives his own team to San Luis Obispo or anywhere else he wishes to go, steps off as spry as his son, carries himself as straight and tall as ever. His splendid, big, dark eyes shadow forth a soul clean and brave. In looking at Mr. Slack, one is bound to apply to him Kipling's words, "A gentleman unafraid."

### Major William Jackson and Mrs. Mary Jackson

Among the men and women who pioneered San Luis Obispo and are well worth a place in its history, are Major William Jackson and his wife, Mrs. Mary Francis Jackson. Major Jackson, of the Third Missouri Cavalry Volunteers, was born in Tennessee, June 5, 1828. He enlisted on the first call to arms for the Civil War and served two years. At the expiration of two years, broken health compelled him to retire from the service. In the fall of 1863 he married Mary Francis in Missouri, and in the spring of 1864, they left from White Cloud, Kansas, just across the Missouri line, by wagon train, crossing the plains to California.

Mrs. Jackson was even then a remarkable woman, and drove a mule team the entire distance. The journey lasted four months, and in September the party reached Sebastopol, Sonoma county. With the party were George and William Downing. Robert Coon, who had crossed the plains three times already, acted as guide, else the time would have been longer; but he knew just where the water holes and pastures were, and what Indians to avoid, and how; so the train made a quick, safe trip.

Mrs. Jackson's father and three brothers had started across the plains for California in 1849, but the father and two brothers had died of cholera and were buried somewhere on the road. This much Mrs. Jackson and her mother knew, also that one brother had reached California. The party camped on a flat below Fort Laramie, and were told several men were buried there who had died while crossing. Arrived in California, Mrs. Jackson found her brother, and from him learned that her own father and two brothers were buried there on Laramie flat, where she had camped. All the way, she says, she wondered where they lay, and yet camped beside their graves without knowing it.

Before telling the rest of her story, this incident should be given: It is known to all students of the history of our Civil War that Missouri was the scene of a terrible struggle between the Union and Confederate forces, each trying to save the state for its own side.

At Springfield, where Mary Francis was then a schoolgirl, the Union men were trying to keep "Old Glory" floating until General Sigel and his ten thousand men, many of them Germans, should arrive. Several times the Confederate men tore down the flag and tramped it under foot. At last they shot the Union men who tried to guard it at night. Sigel was coming. Should the Stars and Stripes greet him or not? One day, the day before he was expected, the principal of the school said, "Will any one here volunteer to guard the flag tonight?" Mary Francis arose and said, "I will." Girl after girl arose until twelve girls had said, "I will."

At home she told what she was going to do, and a brother, the last one remaining, said, "If you do that, I will enlist in the Confederate army to-

morning." The twelve girls went to the public square and the flag was run up. There they stayed all night dancing, singing, but always circling the flag pole. About ten the next morning a glad shout went up from the Union men and women, who, at dawn, began to collect about the brave girls that had guarded the flag all night and whom no man had molested; for listen, faint and far away, sounds of fife and drum; and then as on a sea of glass, the sun flashed on ten thousand glistening bayonets. In a little while General Sigel and his men swept around the square. The bands surrounded the girls and serenaded them and the flag, while General Sigel shook hands with each and thanked them for this service to their country.

True to his word, the brother enlisted in the Southern Army, and Mrs. Jackson recalls how her mother stood at the gate one evening while General Lyon, on his fine dappled gray charger, rode past on his evening ride. She questioned him, saying, "Do you think there will be a battle?" "Yes, Madam, there will be a battle, probably tomorrow." At break of day, the roll of artillery began. Five miles away a son and brother were fighting against the flag that the sister had guarded; but so it was all through those awful years—son against father, brother against brother, on the battlefield, while the women wept, worked and prayed at home with no drums, no fifes, no yelling hordes, to cheer them on; and so it will ever be while the hell of war is allowed by so-called civilized nations.

In the fall of 1863, Mary Francis married her soldier lover and, as stated, started for California the next spring. The husband and wife had brought little cash with them, but great store of pluck and energy. Mrs. Jackson says she grew tired of living without butter and milk, so urged Major Jackson to offer her fine gold watch and chain to a man who owned some good-looking cows, for one of them. At first the Major demurred, but she finally had her way, and in exchange for watch and chain, the man gave her two of his best cows. Each cow had a heifer calf; and when, in 1867, the family decided to remove to Santa Barbara county, those cows and young heifers came along, following the wagon in which the family rode. It took two weeks for the trip, but it was spring and feed was fine, so cows and folks arrived in good condition. Mrs. Jackson says as long as they ranched, the cows were always hers, as she started the herd with her gold watch and chain. When they went to Lompoc valley, some years later, sixty head of fine cattle followed the wagons. With the Jacksons came the Downing boys, also. Mrs. Jackson says San Luis Obispo was just a little huddle of adobe huts. One narrow dirty street ran past the Mission, and it was littered with old cast-off clothing, hats, shirts, etc.

The party had started for Santa Barbara county and passed through the town, camping across San Luis creek at the end of what is now Dana street, or rather across the creek from the end of it. The men in the party went back up town to see the sights. Walter Murray, who without doubt was the most influential and gifted man of those days in San Luis Obispo, got into conversation with them. He urged them to stay there and not go on, saying, "All about town here is rich government land. Stay here and I will locate you on some." After two days of talk and seeing the country, Major Jackson decided to stay, and Walter Murray located him on 160 acres where a big old adobe house stood, that had been owned by the Mission. Later he bought

forty acres more. This land he sold in 1875, to J. H. Orcutt, and it was known for forty years as Laurel Ranch, or the J. H. Orcutt ranch.

In the old adobe, Mrs. Jackson set up housekeeping. Its crumbling walls still stand. All the great eucalyptus trees now on that ranch were set out by Mr. Orcutt, but in 1867 no tree obstructed the view down the valley; Mrs. Jackson says she stood at her kitchen door every morning and looked down the valley to an old adobe, once Mission property, on land now owned by Peter McMillan, and remembered the story told her of some Mexicans who rode up to the cabin door of a family asking for a drink of water. The husband was away; when the woman turned to go into the house, the Mexicans followed and attacked her, and she died as a result of her injuries. Mrs. Jackson says she shuddered as she looked, and wondered about her own future. Major Jackson started selling milk, using at first one horse and a light wagon. Later he put on a big wagon and a spirited team. One day the hired driver got too much "hot stuff" and his team ran away. Mrs. Jackson says she saw them heading up the hill scattering milk cans as they came.

On what is now the Goldtree place, adjoining the Orcutt ranch, a Spanish family lived. A brother was sick and died. One night at midnight, one of them came to Major Jackson's house and begged him to buy their two cows. They said they wanted the money to pay for a mass for the repose of their brother's soul. The Major bought the cows. Mrs. Jackson says the other brothers carried the coffin on their shoulders to the Mission. The priest said the mass, but would come no farther than the mission. She and the Major went with the brothers still carrying the coffin on their shoulders to the cemetery. There was only one cemetery in those days.

Well, the Steeles had just started up their big dairy at Corral de Piedra, and were the nearest neighbors of the Jacksons on the south; and the families visited back and forth. Also Major Jackson bought a number of fine cows from Steele Bros. Mrs. Jackson showed the writer a little old album containing pictures of Judge Walter Murray, a very handsome man; his brother, Alexander Murray; Mr. and Mrs. Morris, who ran the old Cosmopolitan Hotel, the "Casa Grande" of pioneer days; and other quaint old photographs. Years after Mr. Orcutt bought the ranch, a Spaniard came and requested permission to dig in one corner of the old adobe house. It was refused, but that night some one did "dig," and in the morning, in one corner of the deep adobe walls, was a hole showing where a vessel, a kettle-shaped one, had been removed. It had been embedded in the walls and plastered over. No doubt it contained valuables. It might have been a kettle full of Spanish coins, jewels, or treasures from the Mission, but it went as mysteriously as the Spaniard came, and no doubt went with him. Our county is plastered thick with romance that has never been written, and there are still hidden treasures to be dug up.

In 1874, Major Jackson was one of a hundred men who bought seventy-two thousand acres of land in Lompoc valley, the Downing boys being members of the company. Hither the Major and his family removed; and here they lived for about twenty-eight years. In 1902 Major and Mrs. Jackson removed to Orange.

Major Jackson was an officer and charter member of King David's Lodge of San Luis Obispo, which was instituted in November, 1870. Mrs.



Jackson was a charter member of the Mothers' and Daughters' Degree of Masonry, which later became the Eastern Star of San Luis Obispo. Irvin McGuire installed the members.

Major Jackson died, June 12, 1912, and is buried at Orange. Mrs. Jackson, a very bright, interesting woman, active in social and benevolent duties, still resides in Orange. The children are: Judge Grant Jackson of Los Angeles; Mrs. Hattie M. Ross of Santa Barbara; Mrs. Louisa Meyers, deceased; Mrs. Julia Stafford of Santa Barbara; Fred Jackson, a conductor on the Southern Pacific, who lives at Santa Barbara; Robert and Adeline, twins; and Logan, the youngest son, who resides in Orange. Adeline died at the age of thirteen. Robert lives in Pomona.

---

## CHAPTER IX

### Products of the Soil, Dairying, Grazing and the Great Landholdings

#### Wheat and Barley

While a few of the thousands who dug for gold won and kept fortunes, many who "lost out," and some who did not, saw in the great level floors of the valleys certain gold mines if sown to wheat. The Sacramento valley and the smaller valleys about San Francisco bay had produced bountiful crops, when in 1865, after the loss of the cattle, the men of this county had to seek other means of income than grazing. Surely some tales of the great crops of wheat harvested by the padres must have reached them. The means of transportation were so poor that they no doubt were a drawback even after these men began to think of cultivating the land. From 1850 to 1860 steamers anchored out from San Simeon and Port San Luis twice a month; but the means for loading grain were so poor, much loss and expense would have been incurred had there been wheat to ship. After the Vigilantes had cleaned out the criminals and the drought had ruined many of the cattlemen, the people turned to agriculture, especially when, about 1867, Americans began coming in to settle on the government land. In 1868, Mr. Rome G. Vickers issued the first newspaper published in the county, the *Pioneer*. In it he published many articles advocating wheat-raising and urging the people to take advantage of the splendid opportunity the country offered. They must have listened, for five years later the assessor's crop reports state that 5,000 acres had been sown to wheat and 100,000 bushels harvested; 30,000 acres were sown to barley and produced 750,000 bushels. In 1876 the report is: wheat 120,000 bushels, barley 1,500,000 bushels. In 1879 there were 7,000 acres in wheat and 40,000 acres in barley. For 1881-82 the report is 36,384 acres in wheat, 8,454 acres in barley and 2,932 acres in oats. This is interesting, for wheat is on the increase and barley decreasing. By this time the *Estrella* had been settled and found to be a fine wheat-growing country; also wheat was being raised in some other sections of the county, as at Pozo, then called San Jose valley.

In 1886 the whistles of the Southern Pacific gladdened the waiting people of the country as far south as Templeton. This meant better means of shipment as well as many other things. The Paso Robles ranch was subdivided

and sold off in farming tracts by the West Coast Land Co. Over about Shandon, government land was rapidly taken up. Four brothers, D. C., James, Peter, and Alec McMillan, all took up land in what is now known as McMillan cañon. They have all grown well-off raising wheat, even though it must still be hauled over twenty miles to a market. Others haul as far as forty miles to the same warehouses, yet they make money, especially in "good years." In McMillan cañon, this year of 1916, there has been a fine crop of wheat, although in most other sections it has been light or a total failure.

We have already mentioned that in 1873, 5,000 acres produced 100,000 bushels of wheat. From the State Board of Agriculture report for 1915, we learn that this county seeded 33,608 acres to wheat and harvested 428,636 bushels. By these figures the 1873 crop averaged twenty bushels to the acre, while the 1915 crop was not quite an average of fourteen bushels to the acre. The season of 1882-83 yielded a bumper crop in some sections. From an old crop report we learn that Frank McCoppin, on a farm of four hundred acres near San Luis Obispo, raised 20,000 bushels, or fifty bushels per acre. C. Fairbanks, near Morro, raised 1,000 centals from forty acres. Judge Steele of the Corral de Piedra reported an average of forty bushels to the acre. For the last thirty years the writer has resided in the county and knows that the wheat crops have varied greatly. The yield depends so much upon the season, upon summer-fallowing, and good or bad preparation of the land and seed. Barley has decreased in acreage but the yield is the same. Almost invariably the quality is unsurpassed.

### Cultivation of the Wheat

The first plowing in the county was with a sort of forked stick with, in some cases, a piece of iron fastened on one side, a sort of rude plowshare. A branch drawn by oxen harrowed in the wheat scattered by hand. The first real plows used, and they were very crude, William Dana had made in his blacksmith shop on his Nipomo rancho. The great "caterpillars," steam plows, and wonderful modern ranch machinery now in use in the county show we have progressed with the best.

From a hand flail or trampling out the grain with horses, to an up-to-date combined harvester, is the story of the progress in threshing. After the wharves were built, steamers carried away the surplus wheat and barley, which is now shipped mostly by rail to the various seaports and warehouses. England and other European countries, with China and India, are California markets.

### Mills

The "molino," a rude contrivance with a wheel at one end and a millstone at the other run by either water or horse power, was the first mill used in the county. In 1854-55, seed wheat was brought down from San Francisco and "smut" was introduced; proper care in preparing the seed does away with "smut" in most instances.

In 1854, Branch built a grist-mill on the Arroyo Grande, run by water power, and ground wheat for the ranchers of that end of the county. Judge Bonilla had built a mill on San Luis creek, grinding grist from El Chorro, Potrero de San Luis Obispo, Morro, Cayucos, Santa Rosa, San Geronimo,

Santa Margarita, and Piedra Blanca ranchos. Gristers were also brought to Bonilla's mill from Paso Robles and the Estrella.

In 1868, Messrs. Pollard, Childs and Sauer built the El Chorro mill. The building was 50x25 feet on the ground, four stories high. The machinery, consisting of three run of stone with all the latest improvements, was run by a water wheel forty feet in diameter. The water of El Chorro (the waterfall) was capable of driving one stone the entire year, and all three part of the time. With one set of stones running, four hundred and eighty bushels could be ground each twenty-four hours.

In 1872, William Leffingwell, at a cost of \$8,000, built a mill at Cambria. This was a steam grist-mill having two run of stone, and capable of making twenty-five barrels of flour per day. From the assessor's report of 1874, we learn that Branch's mill produced thirty barrels per day; the Chorro, then owned by Pollard & James, fifty barrels per day; and the Cuesta or Bonilla's mill, then owned by S. Sumner, twenty-five barrels per day. Later still the Eagle mill was erected in San Luis Obispo by S. A. Pollard and D. W. James. This was a powerful steam mill, making flour and crushing barley. After the Southern Pacific Railroad came, the Sperry Milling Co. built a fine grist-mill at Paso Robles. In the early nineties the "Farmers' Alliance" put up a mill at San Miguel and turned out fine flour. This mill later became the property of the Sperry Milling Co. At San Luis Obispo the Sperry Flour Co. handles the business.

### Irrigation

Much of the future prosperity of the county is going to depend upon what use is made of the water in the streams and in the underground reservoirs. Always it is too much or too little rain that causes the hard years, or it comes at the wrong time. When we conserve the millions of gallons now running into the sea or rampaging out of their usual confines and washing away acres and acres of valuable soil, as on Old creek or Arroyo Grande creek; when wells are sunk, as on the Henry ranch, now the Atascadero colony—and wonderful wells, even artesian, have been sunk in the Shandon section—when, in a word, we control the water instead of letting it control us, with irrigation we can choose our crops and arrange the "season" to suit our needs. Wherever irrigation in any degree has been used in the county, prosperity, in a like degree, has come to the landholder. We will cite one instance. No better man ever lived and worked hard in Templeton than "Charlie" Steinbeck. He was, for many years, agent for the S. P. Milling Co. there. He bought a tract of land just across the Salinas from town, a nice level piece of alluvial land one would call it, set out a pear orchard, and year in and year out spent his salary in caring for it. One year the trees were loaded with fruit—one year mind you, not every year—and Charlie hired all the help he could get, picked, packed and shipped his big pear crop East. He paid his help, paid for his boxes and for loading the car, out of his salary, and waited for the return from his car load of pears. It came—a bill for freight. They sold or took the pears and asked for more to defray freight charges. After years of this sort of thing Mr. Steinbeck passed over his land to the man who held the mortgage, and left for Hollister, where he is now, a successful business man; but as the children say, "listen here." That land which was always a bill of expense to C. M. Steinbeck is now a little gold

mine. The present owner just pumped some water up out of the Salinas and ran it out on the alfalfa that covers those acres. It feeds sleek dairy cows and waddling porkers, and you couldn't buy that land today, for it is not for sale.

In the dry year of 1898-99, the cattle on the P. W. Murphy ranch died by hundreds, for no way had been provided to feed the cattle if Nature lay down on her job, as she quite often does all over California, as well as elsewhere. When Mr. Henry bought the ranch he put down wells, irrigated plots here and there, built great barns, stored them full of hay, and the "dry years" were robbed of their terror and destruction so far as that ranch was concerned. A book might be filled with these stories. Irrigation is coming into the county fast, and it brings peace of mind as well as a comfortable living. Fields of fragrant blue-blossomed, emerald-green alfalfa gladden the eyes of those who roll along in their automobiles over the great state highway that now runs clear through our county. Several years ago bleaching cattle bones lay beside the same roadway as it crossed the old Murphy ranch, for then we waited for Nature to do the "job" we are learning it is wise and profitable to do for ourselves—irrigate.

### Vegetables

Vegetables will grow anywhere in the county if soil is properly prepared and water supplied. The Arroyo Grande valley has long been famous for its fine vegetables, berries and mammoth pumpkins. Splendid gardens are cultivated by Japanese and Chinamen on plots around San Luis Obispo and along the Salinas river.

### Beans

The "bean land" of the county is very valuable and lies mostly south of San Luis Obispo, in patches along the coast and the creeks flowing into the sea. More and more land is being annually planted. Usually the returns are good, sometimes very profitable. The report of the State Board of Agriculture for 1915 gives 11,169 acres planted to beans in this county, which produced 207,674 bushels of dry beans. The crop of 1882, according to the assessor's report, was 123,570 bushels from 6,530 acres. If these statistics be true, the average per acre was twenty bushels in 1882, and eighteen and one-half bushels in 1915. Threshing then was with flails or trampling out by horses. Now there are bean threshers, cutters and all sorts of modern machinery for working the crop. Large acreages were planted in the year 1916, but the season was rather late for planting, or some thought so, and the beans were mostly still in the field when the rain began falling on September 28, and continued, with but little let-up, to October 10. The official report from the town of San Luis Obispo is 4.16 inches, and the fall was heavier south. The great bean crop was badly damaged. Some means of housing the beans after they are pulled would have saved thousands of dollars. Sheds with tiers of racks might solve the problem. One man, a Portuguese, was heard telling that he had 1,800 sacks of beans in the warehouse and was "going to quit and go to Europe." Buyers offered 7.7 cents per pound in the sack, and as high as 10½ to 11 cents. The great European war is given as the cause of the high price of beans as of everything else.

(Dec. 28, 1916.—In spite of heavy rain and added expense the beans turned

out much better than was thought possible when the heavy September rain began and continued on into October. Ten cents per pound meant big returns.)

### Orchards

The settlers who came into the country during the late sixties and early seventies set out orchards and found that almost all deciduous fruits and berries did well in certain localities. Apples, peaches, plums and apricots did well in the little cañons or valleys opening to the sea. Over about Pozo peaches and plums thrive, and in some places pears were excellent. On the old Blackburn ranch just south of Templeton was a fine orchard. The finest cherries grew on great trees near the house. Mrs. Blackburn was very kind and gracious to her new Templeton neighbors, who were often invited to come down and pick cherries. Such delicious fruit as those trees yielded willing pickers, and how good they were in winter, canned! A fortune in cherries awaits some one who will buy that old orchard tract and set it to cherries. Old "Uncle Misenheimer" used to bring in wagon loads of fruit raised on his hill ranch out in Summit district, and peddle it in Templeton; so when the real estate agents advised us to buy land and set out orchards we all took the bait and bought. We had not then learned that the difference in soil and climate, between a little bench on a hillside of some valley in the mountains or hills, on the one hand, and the open Salinas valley on the other, meant all the difference between failure and success. Hundreds and hundreds of acres about Templeton and Paso Robles were set out to prunes, apples, olives, pears, peaches and plums. Thousands of dollars were spent caring for the orchards, but not one of the many who set out the orchards ever got back his investment. At Templeton, William Horstman, Hans Petersen, Mr. Aiken, H. Wessel, C. M. Steinbeck, King, Putnam, and scores of others, set out orchards; and in the end, after years of trial, the orchards were left to die or were dug out. This is the truth, for the writer came there in 1887, got "stung" with the rest, and in the fall of 1898 did newspaper work to earn money to pay for pulling out and burning up six acres of fine, big, fruitless prune trees. What was true of that orchard was true of others. Witnesses can be found to corroborate this statement. Some contend that since the great earthquake of 1906, the climate has changed and good peaches and apples are now being raised on some of the same places where they were failures twenty-five years ago. Across the river from Paso Robles, R. L. Shackelford set out a very large prune orchard. It never paid. We saw it when it was an abandoned wreck of dead, scraggly trees, and again when a booming chicken ranch was on the site of the old orchard. Almonds have paid good returns in some localities about Paso Robles, and on the strength of that, large acreages have been set out. It is hoped that none of the present owners of orchards will suffer the losses the pioneers of that section did. The trees always grew. Those orchards as far as wood was concerned were howling successes, but alas for the fruit!

The Atascadero colony, on the old Atascadero, Murphy, Henry ranch, has set out thousands of trees. They say experts told them just where and how to plant them. The trees grew fairly well—so did ours four miles north of there—but let us hope that the "quake" or the "experts," or old Dame Nature herself, will do a better job than ever any of us were able to do when

it comes to making those trees bear fruit. This is history, not fiction, so we are sticking to the truth as it was demonstrated from 1887 up to 1900, a period of thirteen years. Since irrigation has been given a trial and alfalfa sown, the question of making a living from a small or great acreage has been changed. Feed the alfalfa to the cows, sell the cream, feed the separated milk to the calves, hogs and chickens, and use ordinary wit about the rest, and you can make a comfortable living now where, twenty-five or more years ago, we made nothing.

Walnuts are very profitable when grown in the right section. D. J. Matthews set out walnuts and a profitable orchard resulted. Out in the Ascension district, the York, Anderson, Matthews and other families have raised quantities of wine grapes, and the York Winery has made money. San Luis Obispo County is all right, soil, climate and people; but it is, as we have stated before, "a county where the pioneers made the mistakes and the people are now profiting, or can profit, by them, and reap fortunes where they lost them."

### Dairying: Its History and Growth

The great drought of 1862-63-64 had destroyed the herds of Spanish cattle and the owners of the grants could not afford to restock them. Settlers were coming in demanding surveys and the government land for settlement. These new settlers began to cultivate the land and asked protection for their crops from the ranging cattle; this meant fencing. Endless fights and not a few deaths were the result of this war between the farmers and the cattlemen. John Slack, who came to San Luis Obispo in the early sixties, in addition to plowing land and sowing wheat, had an American wife, a double offense; so various schemes were tried to get rid of him. Three different times plans were laid for killing him. Once an old Mexican woman, some called her plain "Injun," warned him that his home was to be attacked that night; so he arranged not to be there. He "was gettin' reckless like" about that time, and the Mexicans concluded he was not a safe man to fool with. A few men, Slack with the others, had tried to tame native cows sufficiently to be milked Yankee fashion, that is, without tying up the hind legs and letting the calf suckle while the milker hustled to get a little of the drip. Possibly these men started the dairy business in the county, but by common consent the honor is given to the Steele brothers. These men, George and E. W. Steele, had been in the dairy business on a large scale in Marin county. Their leases were about to expire, so in June, 1866, E. W. Steele visited this county, rode over the Corral de Piedra, Pismo, Balsa de Chemical and Arroyo Grande ranchos, and declared "This is cow heaven." He arranged to purchase 45,000 acres of these lands at \$1.10 per acre. Later, an heir to the Corral de Piedra brought suit against Steele Bros. on complaint of a flaw in the title. A trial in the United States district court, where Judge Hoffman presided, gave the land to Steele Bros., but the case was carried to the United States supreme court, where the decision was reversed and the Steeles had to pay \$150,000; but even so they got the land cheap. They brought down six hundred good cows from Marin county, employed one hundred men and spent about \$20,000 a year for five years in buildings, fences and improvements. They did not propose to let a dry year ruin them, so raised feed for their stock. Steele Bros. made cheese for many years, as that could be mar-

They were the only means of shipment. Later they made butter, as well as cheese. The great Steele dairy ranch was divided and sold off for small farms years ago. E. W. Steele, Jr., has just sold out his last bit of the Steele ranch and homestead, forty-seven acres. Both of the men who started the dairy business in the county are dead, as are their wives. George Steele had no children, and E. W. only one son, who at present lives on his ranch near Edna. After Steele Bros. showed what a good dairy could do, people all along the coast went into the business. Steamers at San Simeon, Port San Luis and Cayucos carried away the cheese and butter.

In 1873, the dairies produced 300,000 pounds of butter, and 500,000 pounds of cheese; 8,342 cows and 9,609 calves were reported. In 1876, the reports were butter, 500,000 pounds; cheese, 600,000 pounds; cows, 19,000; calves, 18,000. In 1882, there were 1,331,160 pounds of butter, 872,362 pounds of cheese. In 1883, there were 1,567,100 pounds of butter and 985,420 pounds

A great many Swiss came to the county, for here was a business they knew in Switzerland. At first most of the young men were employed as milkers on the American-owned ranches; but they had no intention of milking other people's cows always. They saved their earnings, until they had a few hundred dollars, or maybe less, rented a ranch and cows, and worked it for a share of the profits. Soon the Swiss lad could buy some cows, then some land, and today the majority of the fine coast ranches are owned by Swiss, while the rest are leased by them. One man told the writer of borrowing passage money from a friend and coming to California at the age of eighteen. He must repay that money and send money home to his old parents. He said he used to declare to himself that some day he would own the ranch that he was then slaving on half the night, getting up at 3:30 A. M. in the winter rain and milking shivering cows in the open while his own garments were sometimes frozen stiff. "He held the thought," and also worked towards that end. He has owned that ranch for years and two others right in a string on Old creek. More than ten years ago he was offered \$100,000 for his land alone, but he did not feel like selling. His cows are well housed in winter; no one freezes while milking on that ranch now; acetylene lights are used in all the buildings and the big corral.

This story would about fit most of the rich Swiss dairymen of the county. They build nice homes, have many comforts and are as automobile-mad as their American neighbors. Their fine driving teams were the admiration of all thirty years ago, and now it is the best in automobiles for them. The Swiss for the dairies and the Portuguese for the beans. Now the dairy business is carried on differently. The cream is separated, and great truck loads of it are hauled to the creameries in San Luis and at other points, while a string of wagons and autos bring in the cream from the local ranches. The milk goes to feed hogs and calves. The work on the ranch is lessened, and the profits are certainly good, judging by appearances.

The dairy inspectors went after dirty dairies in the county, and from December, 1912, to November, 1914, thirteen dairymen were arrested for having unsanitary dairies; but it is only fair to say the dairies were cleaned up, \$135 in fines was collected.

The creameries in operation in 1910 were the Polytechnic School creamery, Cayucos creamery, Diamond creamery at Cayucos, Maple Grove and

San Luis creameries at San Luis Obispo, and Santa Ysabel creamery near Paso Robles. In 1914, the Polytechnic, California Central, Los Angeles, and Swift & Co. creameries were in operation in San Luis Obispo, and the Santa Ysabel near Paso Robles. In 1905, the county produced 1,309,831 pounds of butter and 61,569 pounds of cheese; in 1906, 1,388,551 pounds of butter and 147,717 pounds of cheese; in 1913, 1,846,828 pounds of butter and 156,380 pounds of cheese; in 1914, 1,909,176 pounds of butter and 246,090 pounds of cheese; in 1915, 2,759,751 pounds of butter and 134,662 pounds of cheese. The creameries now operate as in 1914, and there is a fine cheese factory at Harmony owned by a company of dairymen. The O'Connors of Los Osos have a cheese factory, and there are two near San Miguel. For 1914, butter averaged 27.61 cents; for 1915, it averaged 28.70 cents, and cheese 14.10 cents per pound.

Major William Jackson, a sketch of whom appears in Chapter VIII, was among those who very early engaged in dairying. He settled on 160 acres of government land and later sold it to J. H. Orcutt. It became a part of Laurel ranch, for forty years the property of Mr. Orcutt, who set out hundreds of eucalyptus trees along the little creeks and gullies of his big ranch, built a nice home, planted an orange orchard, built a reservoir to impound the waters of a little stream, piped it all over the place, irrigated orchards and gardens, and eventually had a fine herd of Jersey cattle. From the Orcutt herd many other dairymen improved theirs. Mr. Orcutt also owned and raised some fine driving horses in the days when a swift team was a valuable asset to any man. Laurel ranch contained about five hundred acres and lies just southeast of the city limits. It was sold to Mr. Johnson recently. About five years ago the Orcutt family removed to Garden Grove, in Orange county.

### Grazing and the Great Landholdings

Grazing is the main business on all the great landholdings. Most of them lie in the eastern and southeastern parts of the county, but the Hearst holding known as the Piedra Blanca ranch, containing 52,577 acres, lies in the northwest corner of the county, and controls fifteen miles of seacoast and the deep sea harbor of San Simeon bay. The Nacimiento, owned by Isaias W. Hellman, lies partly in this county and partly in Monterey, 24,198 acres in this county.

Painted Rock ranch, 21,303 acres, is owned by Sarah Blakey. McDonald ranch, 41,125 acres, lies just west of the Chicote ranch of 23,400 acres owned by Miller & Lux. The Chimeneas ranch of 15,192 acres belongs to the Reis estate, as does also the Santa Margarita of 20,806 acres, a total of 35,998 acres in this holding. The Spanish ranch of 9,080 acres belongs to the Orena estate and lies in the extreme southern part of the county. The Cuyama ranch belonging to George C. Perkins contains 9,878 acres. It is now on the market in subdivisions. John W. Ulm owns the Godfrey ranch of 9,295 acres lying in the northern part of the county west of the Nacimiento ranch. The Biddle ranch of 8,253 acres lies along the north bank of Arroyo Grande creek. The Newhall ranch, Alamo, lies in the southern part and contains 24,015 acres. S. Koshland owns 11,946 acres. The Santa Rosa ranch of 2,530 acres also belongs to the Hearsts. It is south of Cambria. The



Estrella ranch of 42,643 acres lies east of Paso Robles and belongs to the Hellmans of Los Angeles.

The Sacramento ranch, 48,002 acres, lies south of the Estrella and belongs to C. W. Clark. The Kern Land Company owns 28,431 acres in the southeastern part of the county. La Panza ranch, 24,000 acres, belongs to Jacob and Rosie Schoenfeldt. San Juan ranch, 59,175 acres, lies in the eastern part of the county and belongs to Henry Wreden. The Sinsheimers own 30,000 acres or more; the Avenals, Spring ranch and Canyon ranch southeast of Pozo. Cholame ranch, 22,993 acres, is in the northeast corner of the county and belongs to the R. E. Jack Company. Camatti ranch, 28,368 acres, is northwest of the San Juan ranch and belongs to Ogden Mills.

Wheat is raised on portions of the Sacramento, Cholame, Estrella, San Juan and La Panza ranches, but cattle are the main dependence. Thousands of them are driven to stations on the Southern Pacific and shipped to the San Francisco market. The new valuation placed this year on these ranches may result in subdivision, but most of the owners are so rich already that they can choose to be land-barons and pay their taxes easily out of their cattle profits. The spring rodeos are still events, and the vaquero in all his cowboy dress, mounted on a flying pony swinging his reata, is just as picturesque and daring as ever he was. Less silver adorns his hat; more wiry, clean-cut Americans, and fewer Mexicans, now "vaquero," but nothing of efficiency or bravery has been lost in the exchange. A first-class "Wild West Show" is easily put on by the "cowboys" of our county when they want to cut a few shines to please the people at their annual Admission Day celebrations at Cambria, or at the biennial fairs of Paso Robles. The state board reports for 1915 give these statistics: Dairy cows, 24,193; other cows, 22,903; yearling heifers, 10,345; calves, 15,635; yearling steers and bulls, 8,948; other steers and bulls, 33,180; total, 118,704; value, \$2,789,415.

## CHAPTER X

### Mineral Productions

#### GOLD

Gold has been found in many sections of the county. It has been mined in the mountains of the northern part, has been washed out of the beach sands south of Port San Luis, but only over in the eastern part in the La Panza country has it ever really paid. Over in the San Jose range, between the head waters of the Salinas (salt) river and the San Juan, which both flow north or west and northwest, rises another stream, the La Panza, flowing northeastward, sometimes sinking into the sand, at other times reaching the San Juan. Here in this mountain region of cañons, as early as we have record, Indians and Mexicans mined for gold. In 1878 there was quite a "rush" to these mines, and in De la Guerra gulch a few Americans and about two hundred fifty Spanish and Mexicans were busily working. Over \$100,000 is known to have been taken out. In 1882, Frank H. Reynolds prospected on the Navajo creek; one day he packed water on a burro and washed out \$9 worth of gold. This creek flows through a narrow cañon. He reported

averaging \$4 a day. Haystack cañon has a clear stream, its head waters falling over a perpendicular wall twenty feet high into a pool twelve feet deep. So clear is it that its pebbly bottom is plainly seen. Coarse gold was found all along the stream, which reaches the San Juan only during seasons of heavy rain.

Reynolds visited the famous "Painted Rock," the ancient temple of a race of sun-worshippers on the Carissa plains, and found gold in crevices of the ridge west of the temple. He carried the dirt to water and washed it out. The rock was soft granite, and while digging he exhumed live scorpions, small, colorless and blind; as soon as exposed to the light they died. In the soft sandstone west of La Panza he found scallop shells nine inches in diameter, sharks' teeth, bones and other fossils. Petrified oyster shells of great size are found on the high mountain shelves, showing unmistakably that once the ocean covered our highest coast ranges far inland. An old miner prospected the La Panza country, and in 1879 published an article in the South Coast under date of February 5, 1879. In it he says: "Prospects of fine gold are found nearly everywhere in the streams. Evidently there are rich 'pockets' of gold which wash into the streams from the lower hills and flats. A belt of cement gravel six miles long exists similar to that of Forrest Hill and Yankee Jim in Placer county, of You Bet and Little York in Nevada county, and of Monte Cristo in Sierra county, but there is not enough water to use the hydraulic process." He believed rich deposits existed in all the gravel belt; he also reported that in the lime belt was a lead of rich-looking silver ore. Tests showed as high as \$36 per ton silver and gold. The Comanche claim made several pulverized-quartz pan-tests which yielded about \$30 a ton gold and silver, mostly silver. John Mason and T. C. Still reported an aggregate of \$10,000 a year from the claims worked. During 1878-79 the output amounted to \$50,000.

### SALT

Around the head waters of the Salinas are salt springs so strong that the brine was used to pickle meats. Out on the Carissa plains is a dry bed of a salt lake. The cattlemen haul blocks of salt for the cattle to lick on the ranges, and in pioneer days it was refined by them for home use.

### COAL

Outcroppings of coal have been located in the northern end of the county. At San Simeon the coal cropped out of the rocks along the bay, and in 1863, William Leffingwell used to mine it for use in his blacksmith shop. A shaft was sunk one hundred feet, but the coal pinched out, showing it to be only a gash-vein. There is a peak north of Cambria called Coal Mountain, but so far coal in paying quantities and of sufficient hardness to be valuable has not been mined here. The vein has been worked in Stone cañon, Monterey county, with success, and that vein may extend southward into this county as well.

### QUICKSILVER

#### Josephine Mine

The first quicksilver mining in this county that was really profitable was about 1862, when the Josephine mine, about half-way between Paso

Robles and San Simeon bay, was worked. A party of Mexicans located the mine near the head waters of Santa Rosa creek. Barron & Co. of San Francisco, owners of the New Almaden mines in Santa Clara county, bought the Josephine of Walter Murray and C. B. Rutherford. They worked the mine three years and produced \$280,000 worth of quicksilver, which was shipped from San Simeon. As the ore seemed to lie in "pockets" or "kidneys" and was hard to handle, this company quit work, but retained their claim upon the property. The late John E. Childs of San Luis Obispo came down from New Almaden mine for Barron, Bolton & Bell in 1862 as superintendent, and for some years managed the mine.

### Klau Mine

A young Spaniard named Felipe Villegas came to California when twenty-one years old, worked at various things, and finally went to raising sheep and goats on Santa Rosa creek. He married Helena Rochas, who bore him one son, Felipe, Jr. They lived on the banks of Huero creek and here the wife died, but the father kept the boy and raised him at his camp. On his return one day the father missed the little lad. Knowing he had strayed into the hills and was liable to meet death, the father searched through the cañons and over the rugged mountainside for his boy, whom he at last found. While climbing the hills he discovered a ledge of cinnabar. He located a mine, opened it, put up a retort, and mined and retorted quicksilver. The mine was first called the Santa Cruz, then the Sunderland, later the Dubost and now the Klau. A company of rich Swiss organized the Klau Mining Co. and are now opening up new ledges, taking out ore and retorting quicksilver. Felipe Villegas lived in this section of country until he died at the age of seventy, and his son Felipe was once a trusted foreman for the manager of the Klau company.

Some maintain the Klau mine was worked before Villegas discovered it; but from all the historian has been able to learn, she sees no reason to discredit the Villegas story. When the present European war broke out and quicksilver jumped in price, A. Luchesa, William Bagby and Eugenio Bianchini purchased the Klau mine and began operating it. A sixty-ton Scott furnace was erected, tracks and cars for hauling ore were put in, and the output averaged a flask a day when run full time.

### Pine Mountain Mine

This claim, situated near the northeast corner of the Piedra Blanca ranch, was discovered by a Mexican in 1871. Eight claims were located near the summit of the range. Land & Brewster of San Francisco first bonded the Pine Mountain claims for \$40,000, paying down \$3,000. They let go and Senator J. P. Jones of Nevada bonded them for \$30,000, paying down \$1,500. After spending \$8,000 to incompetent management, he surrendered his claim. Later, about 1890, G. W. Gillespie's father became owner and also ran a sawmill in the vicinity. Gillespie also bought the Ocean View claim, located by Gibson & Phillips. The Ocean View company spent about \$200,000 prospecting, building furnaces, buying machinery and equipment, building roads and trying out theories. Quicksilver dropped from \$1.50 to 40 cents per pound and made mining it unprofitable, so the work was abandoned by the

company. The Keystone mine was discovered in December, 1871. In May, 1872, Cross & Co. of San Francisco bonded it for \$36,000, but later they bought it for \$20,000. After spending a great deal of money, they decided it was only a "slide" from Pine Mountain lode, and quit.

### Oceanic Mine

These are the richest quicksilver mines ever located in this county. Three residents of Cambria discovered and located the claims in 1872. They are about three quarters of a mile from the north side of Santa Rosa creek and five miles from Cambria. The claims in 1874 were sold to a company of San Francisco capitalists among whom were A. C. Peachy, Lafayette Maynard, T. F. Cronise, and M. Zellerbach. They organized the Oceanic Mining Co. The capital stock was \$6,000,000 or 60,000 shares, and the shares were sold for twenty-five dollars each. The three men who located the mine sold out to the company for \$36,000. At times three hundred men were employed; and three furnaces were built, which, together with cost of operation, amounted to \$90,000. Seven well-timbered tunnels were run and the quicksilver was easily produced, owing to the kind of ore. At \$1.50 per pound it promised big returns, but quicksilver dropped and then the mines were closed down. They were kept in repair; and when prices warranted, work was again started. When in 1914 the cataclysm of war broke loose in Europe, prices soared. The Oceanic mine was quickly opened up and over three hundred men set to work. The output was very satisfactory and soon prices went up. Quoting from the state mining bureau under date of February 28, 1916, the report for 1915, quicksilver sold at \$51.90 per flask of seventy-five pounds in January, 1915; steadily advanced to \$123.00 in December, 1915; and during January, 1916, sold for from \$275 to \$316 per flask. The prices fell during the year 1916; and at this writing, January, 1917, quicksilver is selling for \$80 a flask delivered from the mine to Paso Robles. The Oceanic has produced 25,000 flasks of seventy-five pounds each since development began. Murray Innis has owned the property for the last five years. Early in the year he sold out to a New York company for \$400,000; and \$200,000 was paid down. This company ran the mine about seven months, and then turned the property over to Mr. Innis. Pending this settlement the mine was not worked; but after Mr. Innis was again in full possession he resumed work, and fifty men, with E. W. Carson as superintendent, are now operating the mine.

## COPPER

### Good Will Mine

Copper exists in several parts of San Luis Obispo County. A peculiar ore called Cuban exists in large quantities along Santa Rosa creek. Many boulders of almost pure copper are found. One is estimated to weigh over 1,000 tons. It is believed to be almost pure metal, being very hard to break or drill. The first copper mining in the county was in 1863, when Mr. Rutherford located and operated the Green Elephant and the North Mexican copper mines. The ore was smelted at the mines; also much was shipped to San Francisco. All along the Chorro, copper exists and seems to run in a heavy vein northwest from the Chorro.

In 1911 the mine was taken over by an English syndicate. Good ore was taken out, hauled by ox-cart around the hill to Port Harford and shipped around the Horn to Swansea, Wales. This shows that the ore was of high grade to warrant such expense in shipping. About the close of the Civil War the mine was abandoned. In 1898, Mr. Geeres, Attorney General of California, opened up the old mine. At 210 feet a tunnel showed signs of good ore, but Mr. Geeres was stricken with appendicitis and died in a hospital. His son, being a minor, could not force the estate to carry on the work, so the mine was abandoned.

In 1904 Mr. Paulson attempted to operate the mine for iron ore and spent between \$4000 and \$5000 prospecting, but the time was not ripe for iron production, for coal and coke used in smelting iron ore could not be shipped from Pennsylvania to use at a profitable figure.

In the fall of 1915, W. H. Cureton and his associate leased seventy acres from Mr. Filippini and Alex Gibson with the intention of developing copper. In June, 1916, a new company was formed and the lease transferred to Maurice B. Ayars and Ernest L. Quist. In July, by the joint efforts of C. A. Iversen, George F. Root and E. L. Quist, twelve hundred acres more were leased, all interested united, and the Goodwill Mining Syndicate was formed, Mr. Quist as manager having charge of development. The property is seven miles west of San Luis Obispo, on the south side of Los Osos valley, four miles from Morro bay, where the ore from the Green Elephant mine was shipped in the early sixties. A good wagon road, in no place over seven per cent. grade, leads to the mine. At present there is one tunnel three hundred feet long with a perpendicular cut of ninety feet, practically blocking out two million tons of ore, valued at ten dollars a ton in the ledge. Several cottages have been built for workmen and a temporary hotel or boarding house. A second tunnel has been run two hundred feet into the hill and a third one has reached seventy-five feet, showing a good ledge of iron and copper. A fourth tunnel cross-cuts a thirty-foot ledge of fifty per cent. metallic iron.

This ore runs so low in silica that it can only be reduced by fusing it with lower grades of iron ore. The company will at once install a system of mineral concentrators which will extract the gold, copper or iron in whatever quantities found. They will also install an electric generating system, power drills and air pumps. Messrs. Johe & Welch are also interested in the Goodwill Mining Co., owning land leased by it.

## **CHROMIUM**

Chromium or "chrome" ore probably ranks next to quicksilver in this county, so far as yet tested. From it dyes and paints are made, used in the arts, especially porcelain painting. It is here in large veins, the best-known one so far being a vein twelve miles long extending northwesterly from San Luis Obispo, very rich deposits being found on and near the head of Chorro creek. It has assayed as high as seventy per cent. During 1878-79 the county was rated as producing \$60,000 worth of chrome. In 1882 a report stated that twenty thousand tons had been shipped and eight thousand tons were at the depot. This would mean at the Pacific Coast depot, for the Southern Pacific had not then been built through the county. Ore was then

sent over the Pacific Coast Railway to Port Harford, now Port San Luis, and shipped by steamer. There is a rich deposit of chrome between San Luis Obispo and Avila. Usually the United States buys abroad rather than bother to develop at home; but when the present European war interfered with that easy-going plan, we had to bestir ourselves and consequently home products have been recognized. A good deal of chrome ore has been shipped during the last year and a half, and some day it and all the other great mineral wealth of San Luis Obispo County will be appreciated and yield up millions of dollars.

### OTHER MINERALS AND STONES

Silica is here and has been made into a polish for metals; iron abounds in almost every form; lime is found in vast beds; gypsum and alabaster, both of the purest and best quality, are found in great abundance on the head waters of the Arroyo Grande creek and on Navajo creek. Onyx, capable of the finest polish, is also found at the head of Arroyo Grande creek. J. and F. Kessler, owners of a deposit in Solano county, owned the property at last accounts.

### ASPHALTUM

Great beds of asphaltum are found on the Corral de Piedra, Pismo and Santa Manuela grants. The old Spanish families used it to cover the roofs of buildings, to lubricate the wheels of their carretas, and later it was used for walks and pavements. More than thirty-five years ago McDougal, Neuval and others shipped about one hundred tons monthly. In the Tribune for March 30, 1883, is an account of the finding of the rich asphaltum beds below Edna. A vein from three to five feet in thickness was uncovered, but a few inches below the surface; twenty-five tons refined left less than five hundred pounds of waste. One hundred tons a month were at once contracted for in San Francisco and taken there by steamer. The shipping of asphaltum continued for years to be a big industry, and there are beds of it all over the southern and western parts of the county. Out on the Huasna on the J. P. Black ranch it oozes from the ground, and at times heavy rumblings of gas are heard; then it boils up like a spring. Between Arroyo Grande and the Huasna is Tar Springs ranch, the name signifying asphaltum in big beds and soft pools.

### THE OIL INDUSTRY

About fifteen years ago in Price's cañon, where the asphaltum beds above described are located, derricks were erected and drilling for oil began. A good many rigs were put up, but only the Tiber Oil Company brought in paying wells. The Tiber is now operating six wells, producing 450 barrels a day, which is sent out by pipe line. All the territory below Price's cañon and Pismo has just been leased by Doheny and others. Much prospecting is being done with a reasonable hope of bringing in a rich oil field in our own county. Hadley is the name applied to a refining plant in Price's cañon. The Baker Ensign Company ran it for some time, but eventually went under. The California Paint Company also operated at Hadley for a few years. They bought oil, and made liquid asphalt and many other products. The asphalt was placed in barrels and thousands of tons shipped. The plant was in

oil. It was again operated this year, and 800 barrels are awaiting shipment.

### The Producers Transportation Company

This represents the largest oil interest in the county. The company owns five hundred miles of pipe line, one hundred thirty-eight of which is in this county. Oil from the Bakersfield, Taft, Midway, Sunset, Lost Hills, McKittrick and Belridge fields is brought to Port San Luis, whence 16,000,000 barrels is sent out annually to points all the way from Alaska to Chile and to the Hawaiian islands. It handles oil for the Union Oil Company and the Independent Producers Agency. There are pumping stations at Shandon, Creston, Santa Margarita, Tank Farm, Avila and Port San Luis in this county. Great oil tanks are at each station, and houses for the men with families. The Tank Farm situated just south of San Luis Obispo contains two hundred fifty acres. This is where the oil is stored, whence it is pumped to Avila and the Port as called for. There are thirty-six tanks, each holding 55,000 barrels of oil; also five great reservoirs: three, each holding 1,000,000 barrels; and two, each holding 750,000 barrels—a total storage capacity of 6,480,000 barrels. Since war was declared, two companies of soldiers have been guarding the Tank Farm.

At Port San Luis the Pacific Coast Railway built a special wharf to handle the oil. A pipe line runs out and loads the great oil tankers as they lie alongside. The Producers own the following ships: "La Brea," "Los Angeles," "Lyman Stewart," "Coalinga," "Lansing," "Washtenaw," "Oleum," "Argyll," "Whittier," "Fullerton," "Phelps" and "Simla." The chartered vessels are "La Habra," "Cordelia," "Santa Maria," "Belridge" and "Lompoc." At Avila a refinery handles oil from the Union wells of the Santa Maria fields. The oil business of the company has made of Port San Luis the greatest oil shipping port in the world and furnishes employment to hundreds of men in the county. The Producers pay-roll enriches the merchants and helps many families to comfortable livings. The officers of the company at present are L. P. St. Clair, president; Stanley Morsehead, vice-president; E. W. Clark, general manager; O. B. Kibele, general superintendent; Lafe Todd, chief engineer; William Groundwater, superintendent of affairs for this county and the Santa Maria oil field interests of the Union.\*

### BUILDING STONE

Near Arroyo Grande are quarries of beautiful yellow sandstone that chisels well. Many pretty buildings have been built out of it, and it makes fine mantels and ornamental facings. Old Bishop's Peak and San Luis Mountain are vast piles of green granite that would, if quarried and used, build many cities. The San Luis High School and Presbyterian Church, as well as a number of houses, are built of this beautiful stone. Many retaining walls and copings are also constructed of it. The so-called "chalk rock" was used for building chimneys, fire-places, and dwellings in pioneer days. Boulders and stones, such as the millionaires delight to use in building their fire-places and walls, lie in heaps in fence corners or along the streams. Old Morro Rock has enough red granite in it to build a wall across the state,

\* The Producers Transportation Company sold out to the Union Oil

and then some. Hundreds of tons of rock have been quarried and broken up at the rock-crushing plant on the Avila or Pismo road and used on the state highway. The man who wishes to build a home may get lumber from the Cambria pines, make adobe or brick walls, or have them of granite or sandstone, and not go out of the county for material. Also he may make a table of onyx, polish his silver with silica, light and heat his home with natural gas, lay asphalt walks, and get all his material within the county lines. If he wishes, he may mine gold for the wedding-ring for the mistress of the house.

### STATISTICAL DATA

The following data we obtained through the State Mining Bureau, at least all given since 1909. In an old assessor's report we learn that 300 flasks of quicksilver valued at \$40 per flask were shipped over the San Simeon wharf in 1872. In 1909 the county produced 317 flasks of the mineral valued at \$15,510; 4,000 gallons mineral water, \$1,000; 2,731 tons bituminous rock, \$6,369; 1,500 tons asphalt, \$55,000; 30,000 barrels oil, value \$15,000; 2,245 M brick, value \$19,605; 700 tons rubble, \$400; total value of mineral products for the year 1909, \$112,884. The total value for 1908 was \$78,379; total value for 1911, \$75,556; for 1912, \$31,564. For 1913: Bituminous rock, 609 tons, value \$1,149; brick, 1,500 M, value \$15,000; gold, \$124; mineral water, 1,500 gallons, value \$600; quicksilver, 1,160 flasks, value \$46,667; silver, \$1.00; stone industry, \$134; total value, \$63,675. For 1914: Bituminous rock, 579 tons, value \$1,118; mineral water, 1,000 gallons, value \$250; quicksilver, 1,266 flasks, value \$62,097; total value, \$63,465.

By comparison, quicksilver is seen to be the most valuable mineral in the county so far. The oil production has greatly increased since the Tiber wells have been cleaned and deepened, and prices have risen during the last two years. The mining bureau was asked for data later than 1914, but failed to furnish it, and so no data for the county farther than that given was secured from the bureau; but by personal inquiry we know that the mineral development and production are rapidly increasing. Very soon we shall be on the map, not only as one of the greatest "cow" counties, but as running close with some of the best mining counties.

---

## CHAPTER XI

### Roads, Wharves, Railroads, Stage Lines and Mail Routes, County Buildings and County Finances

#### ROADS

The trail and the saddle horse were the first means of "getting there." Then schooners, sailing vessels and steamers began calling at the "landings." Finally, wharves were built at San Simeon, near Cambria, Cayucos, Morro and Port Harford, now San Luis bay. Rowboats and ropes and tackle took passengers and freight off or on when the landings were in use. About 1860, steamers began calling twice a month, and by 1875 a lively steamer trade had been established.



August 20, 1850, the Court of Sessions resolved "that there be formed a code by which the roads be put in repair, obliging all the inhabitants to assist in the repairs." May 3, 1852, the legislature established boards of supervisors in several counties, this being one of them, the board to be composed of five members, elected annually. The term has been lengthened, but the duties of supervisors are about the same as then. The Court of Sessions passed out, handing over the business to the supervisors, who were to have charge of the county finances, provide a courthouse, jail and other county buildings, and have control of all county roads, bridges, wharves and "ferries." The county was divided into road districts, taxes were levied for building and repairing roads, and from cattle trails a road system has been built up that compares very favorably with those of the other counties.

In 1872, a poll tax of \$2 was levied on all males between the ages of twenty-one and sixty, the net receipts to go into the road fund. Later a portion of the poll tax went to the school fund. When suffrage was granted to the women of California, the law had to be changed so as to include them or be abolished, for it is illegal to tax one part of the voters and not the rest; so the gallant lawmakers abolished it. Also, in 1872, bonds for \$15,000 were issued by the county to build and repair roads. In 1876, bonds for \$20,000 were issued to build a better road over Cuesta Pass. A movement is being pushed to build an "east and west" road from the San Joaquin valley to the coast, like the highway, and to build a similar road from San Luis Obispo up the coast to San Simeon. For several years all the new county bridges have been made of either concrete or steel. Fine steel bridges span the Salinas at Templeton, Paso Robles, San Miguel and other points, and our concrete bridges are beautiful, especially the one at Atascadero Colony, with its electroliers. The apportionment for building and improving county roads for the year 1916-1917 is \$86,717.51.

The fine new state highway is now completed through the county from Arroyo Grande to Monterey county, including the new grade over Cuesta Pass, on which the cement has now been laid. The supervisors have built a portion of the highway through San Luis Obispo out of the general county fund, and it is supposed they will build it the rest of the way through the city. San Luis claimed it was only right, as the city pays a large proportion of the county taxes. Arroyo Grande and Paso Robles, the other incorporated towns, have as yet built no highway through their city limits. The California Highway Bulletin, July 1, 1916, states that San Luis Obispo County has purchased \$280,000 worth of bonds. Of this amount the county purchased \$100,000 the first time, the Colony Holding Corporation of Atascadero, \$100,000, and the banks \$50,000. The remainder is either held by private parties or has been bought up by the county or banks. It was difficult to make the amounts bought in the county, and of public record, match with the Bulletin's figures, but the Bulletin is bound to be correct. The entire cost of the highway through the county is estimated at \$750,000.

### WHARVES

and warehouse      City John M. Price was used at Pismo for  
Riley      (1911)      wharf and warehouse which  
filled with sand that it was imprac-

ticable to get steamers in or out. The channel by Morro Rock was always a serious proposition to face.

### San Simeon Wharf

A wharf had existed at San Simeon previously; but in 1878, George Hearst, owner of the Hearst ranch and water front on the bay, built a wharf one thousand feet long, ending in water twenty feet deep. The wharf is twenty feet wide for seven hundred fifty feet, with strong railings, then widens to fifty feet for the last two hundred fifty feet. A warehouse 48x100 feet is provided, and the entire cost was \$20,000. This wharf used to do a big business in its palmy days. A few statistics to prove the statement: For the first six months of 1869 the wharf's business included the handling of \$30,000 worth of butter, wool \$8,000, whale oil \$8,000, Chinese products \$3,000, eggs \$8,000, beans \$5,000, hides \$250, cheese \$300, terrapin \$100, a total of \$62,650. There were 2,500 live hogs shipped that year. In 1880, eleven years later, 3,934 boxes of butter were shipped, 930 firkins and barrels of butter, 250 boxes of eggs, 169 flasks of quicksilver, 94 coops of fowls, 374 hides, 5,350 calf hides, 299 packages of whale oil, 725 tons of grain, 14 barrels of tallow, 104 neats of seaweed, 169 sacks of abalones, 1,209 hogs. This is enough to show the kinds and amount of business in the northern end of the county during the periods named. Hearst has always had a big cattle business. The cattle used to be driven to market; now they are shipped by rail from Goldtree, a stock station, just north of San Luis. After Captain Cass built a good wharf, the people of Cayucos section shipped from there.

### Cass's Wharf at Cayucos

This wharf was 380 feet long until 1876, when a partnership was formed including Beebe, Harford and Schwartz; then the wharf was lengthened to 940 feet, the seaward end forty feet wide for the last sixty feet. The total cost was \$10,840.26, as stated in an old record. A warehouse, 92x50 feet, was put up and a portion of it, 50x20 feet, partitioned off for a store. A railroad was built on the wharf to take goods out to the steamers. This wharf has been one of the greatest factors in building up the trade of the county, doing a big business for many years. Since the dairying business has changed so much in that section, most of the dairymen now shipping cream by auto truck to San Luis, where creameries make it into butter, the business of the wharf has decreased. At "Port Harford," as it used to be called, previous to 1872, two wharves were in operation. One was Mallah's wharf or the "Steamer Landing," and the other was called the People's Wharf; but surf boats and lighters had to be used. In February, 1873, Blockman & Cerf purchased the People's Wharf and extended it to deep water so vessels could lie alongside. John Harford then built the railroad wharf. A horse-car line was built out from the wharf to the level land at Avila, and freight could be easily hauled to or from this terminus. Mallah's wharf was abandoned. Now were lively times; the People's and the "Railroad" wharf were in opposition. Rates and "tickets" went down, until anybody could travel or ship any old thing to market. Fares from San Francisco to San Diego went down to \$5. Steamers arrived and departed several times each week. As many as ninety passengers and 200 tons of freight landed

at one time from a single steamer. So great was the travel that even the ladies sometimes had to sleep on the floor of the ladies' cabins, while in the berths they were packed "thick as sardines." The business became so great that people began to talk railroad, and a movement for one was soon on foot.

### County Wharves

About six miles north of Cambria there used to be a small wharf owned by the Leffingwells, where schooners unloaded lumber and a few other things. About 1907, a hue and cry went up for county wharves; Cambria, Cayucos and Port San Luis each wanted to have one built; so bonds for \$90,000 were issued, \$30,000 to be spent at each place. The one built for Cambria was to be where the old Leffingwell wharf was, but the sea wouldn't stand for it, and the storms of February and March, 1908, strewed the timbers of that wharf along the beach; \$30,000 gone to limbo. The wharf at Avila was built and a wharfinger, Payne, employed at a salary of \$150 a month. No vessels came to it; there was nothing to do but hang out a lantern at night and take it in in the morning; still the people had a county wharf, and \$1,800 a year to pay besides. After a time the salary was reduced to \$75 per month, but \$900 a year is considerable to throw away. Of what earthly use is a wharf at Avila until an electric or auto truck line can be put on to compete with the Pacific Coast Railway? When it came to Cayucos wharf, the people had begun to realize what a fool job they were trying to do, so the Cass wharf was paid a bonus and a county wharfinger was employed for a while. The \$30,000 for the county wharf at Cayucos is still in pickle. It was voted to build a wharf there, and it will stay in pickle until a special election is called to vote it for something else. Meanwhile the taxpayers pay interest on county debts and incur more.

## RAILROADS

### Pacific Coast Railway Company

In 1874, J. W. Graves introduced a bill in the legislature which became a law, forming a company for the construction of a railroad from San Luis bay to the Santa Maria valley. The incorporators were John M. Price, H. M. Newhall, Juan V. Avila, N. Goldtree, F. M. Meisinger, C. Nelson, John O'Farrel and Charles Goodall. The previous year, January, 1873, the San Luis Obispo Railroad Co. was organized and filed articles of incorporation. In February, 1873, a company consisting of John Harford, W. S. Chapman, W. L. Beebee, L. Schwartz and others was formed to build a wharf and construct a narrow-gauge railroad to San Luis Obispo. A survey was made and an estimate of \$140,757 given. Ward was the engineer who laid out the route. In March some grading was done and the line was started out, thus securing the right of way to this company. Now, two companies were aiming to build roads over about the same route. Some trouble ensued, but in 1875 the two roads consolidated under the name of the San Luis Obispo & Santa Maria Valley Railroad Co., taking over the wharf and horse-car line built by Harford, paying him \$30,000 for them. The right of way was given or sold for very little. Avila Brothers gave depot grounds, and right of way on the San Miguelito ranch. In December, 1875, the road had reached Miles station, formerly called Root and Harford. Here things

seemed to come to a standstill. The manager said San Luis Obispo must put up \$25,000 before the road came any farther. C. H. Phillips and C. H. Johnson, who were always boosting for the public good, took the matter up and very soon had \$28,500 subscribed. Things moved again, and in August, 1876, the road was completed to San Luis Obispo. August 23, the opening for business was celebrated by a grand excursion and picnic. The road had cost \$180,000, plus \$30,000 paid to Harford for his wharf and road. The fare was eight cents per mile for passengers and fifteen cents a ton per mile for freight. Fare to and from Port Harford was ninety cents each way, or \$1.25 round trip. In 1881 the road was extended to Arroyo Grande; in April, 1882, it reached Santa Maria, then called Central City; and in October, 1882, it had reached Los Alamos. About a year later it was built to Los Olivos, and that remains the end of the road. The entire distance from the port to Los Olivos is seventy-six miles.

In September, 1882, the S. L. O. & S. M. Valley road was transferred to the Oregon Navigation Co. The road from Santa Maria to Los Olivos had been built by the Pacific Coast Railway Co., composed of the same stockholders as built the first division. September 23, 1882, the companies consolidated, taking the name of the Pacific Coast Railroad Co. The great landholdings over which the road passed gave right of way; Steele Bros. gave a strip of land several miles long and sixty feet wide; the Dana estate gave a strip fourteen miles long of the same width, only asking that the mother, Doña Carrillo Dana, be allowed to travel on the road free of charge as long as she lived. The road for years has been a very profitable line. The passenger traffic to steamers has greatly lessened since the Southern Pacific has a through line and excellent train service, but the lumber and freight traffic is still heavy. With our splendid harbor at Port San Luis, a port of entry where deep-sea vessels anchor safely or lie along the wharf, only a cross-country road to the San Joaquin valley is needed to make it one of the great harbors of the world.

### The Southern Pacific Railroad

As early as 1855 a party of government surveyors, under Lieut. John G. Parke, passed through the county taking levels and estimating costs. In January, 1864, a railroad from San Francisco reached San Jose; by March, 1869, it had reached Gilroy. In 1870 this road was transferred to the Central Pacific Co., which changed the name to Southern Pacific, and in 1873 extended to Salinas, in 1874 to Soledad, one hundred seventy-four miles from San Francisco. Soledad remained the terminal until the middle of the eighties. In 1886, the Southern Pacific started building south, and on October 18, 1886, reached San Miguel, trains bringing mail and passengers to that point. The first regular freight was delivered at Paso Robles, November 15, 1886. From then on, trains carried passengers and freight. November 15, 1886, Lyman Brewer went down on a sort of "construction limited" to Templeton and opened up business in a box-car station. The box car was the depot and family residence until April, 1887, when the depot was built. Templeton was "the end of the line" until January 31, 1889. In the summer of 1888, grading was begun for the road from Templeton to Santa Margarita, and the road reached the new townsite January 31, 1889.

In April there was an excursion train from San Francisco, and the next

On the platform was erected, some San Francisco and Paso Robles "American Beauties" in spring costumes sat in the chairs thereon, the band played and the auctioneer did his "darndest," as one "boomer" expressed it, but somehow there was less enthusiasm than two years before when the big Templeton land sale was "pulled off."

Santa Margarita was the terminus of the railroad from January 31, 1889, to May 5, 1894. The road from Santa Margarita to San Luis Obispo lay over the Santa Lucia mountains. The route called for seven tunnels, many great fills, the horseshoe curve, and a long steel trestle across Stenner creek cañon. The creek is ninety feet below the rails of the trestle in one place. This piece of the Coast Division of the Southern Pacific is said to have been one of the costliest bits of railroad ever built. After resting and recuperating the finances, the company began work with an army of men. It took over two years to build this seventeen miles of road. The first tunnel on the Santa Margarita side is 3,616½ feet long and the bed of the tunnel at its highest point is 1,300 feet. Tunnel number seven, as it was called, was the last one before reaching San Luis Obispo. This tunnel caved in and was, after years of use, made into a deep "cut"; so now there are six tunnels to be kept in safe repair. The total cost of this seventeen miles was \$1,774,000.

May 5, 1894, was a tremendous event in the history of this county, for on that day the Southern Pacific ran its first passenger train into San Luis Obispo. The whole county came "down" or "up" to share in the glorification. An excursion train from San Francisco brought down many of the high officials and their wives. Every band in the county was there to make as much noise as possible, for all the whistles and bells in town insisted on ringing or tooting along with the bands. Everybody yelled, ladies no exception, when the long, jubilant whistle of the incoming train was heard singing down the cañon, and a stampede up the track to meet it was next in order. The fine big Hotel Ramona was new and in splendid order to entertain company, but every available room in the town as well was required to house the visitors, and many camped in the open. Twenty beeves were barbecued and a great feast enjoyed. A "grand ball" was given at Hotel Ramona. A. C. McLeod, mayor of the city, ex-sheriff and one time prominent man in many lines, was here, there and everywhere attending to it all, along with the efficient committees. McLeod was just one of the many "canny Scots" who took a hand in setting this county "on its feet," and "Here's to them a' syne."

San Luis Obispo was the terminus for fourteen months; then the road was slowly built on south, first to Guadalupe, then to Surf. Meantime the road was coming north from Los Angeles. On March 31, 1901, the "gap" was closed and trains ran all the way from San Francisco to Los Angeles.

Until the Southern Pacific came to our relief in 1886-1894, we were hardly on the map. The county had remained an isolated spot in spite of the brave efforts on the part of the men and women who "landed" in surf boats, or scaled rope ladders, as at Cave Landing, to settle in our beautiful county. Now we are getting right up in front; and if thirty years has seen so much accomplished, what may we not expect of the next thirty?

It was Mrs. A. M. Hardie who scaled the rope ladder up the cliff at Cave Landing in October, 1867, while Mr. Hardie went ahead carrying the two-months-old son, Frank. Mrs. Hardie says she was horrified on looking

up to see that Mr. Hardie had grasped the baby by his long dress-skirt and was carrying him wrong end up. In spite of his entrance into the county "reversed," so to speak, Frank Hardie has gone ahead and is a prominent man of affairs. The plucky young mother climbed to the top of a big load of seed grain the next morning and, with her infant in her arms, rode all the way to her new home three miles beyond Cayucos; that is, she got almost there, but when the bronchos began kicking over the traces, she leaped with her child to a high bank and walked the rest of the way. Some more Scotch pluck. No wonder that when, October 8, 1916, this couple celebrated their golden wedding at a daughter's home in Paso Robles, people of note from all over the county went to bestow their gifts of gold and, better still, loving regard, upon the gray-haired but vigorous old pioneers of 1867.

### MAIL ROUTES AND STAGE LINES

The first regular mail route established in California was mentioned in the California Star of San Francisco, May 13, 1847. It announced that Governor Kearny had established a regular semi-monthly mail route between San Francisco and San Diego, mail to be carried by two soldiers on horseback, commencing May 19, 1847. Starting every Monday from San Francisco and San Diego, the carriers were to meet the next Sunday at Captain Dana's rancho (Nipomo), exchange mails, start back the next morning and arrive at San Francisco and San Diego the next Saturday. Henry M. Osgood of Stevenson's regiment was one of the very first mail carriers, and in 1850 settled in this county. In 1849 Osgood was succeeded by a man named Smith, who made his headquarters at Pollard's store. Here he obligingly let the people read all the papers, which they were careful to return to the mail sack. Smith disappeared, was last seen near Santa Ynez, and was in all likelihood murdered.

The first real post office in the county was established at San Luis Obispo in 1855, with Alexander Murray as postmaster. For some years steamers and sailing vessels had touched semi-monthly, or when they got there, at the port, and had carried express and mail which from the port was brought up in the stages or on horseback. When the post office was established at San Luis, Walter Murray was given the mail contract. A two-horse wagon made the trip to Monterey once a week, carrying mail and passengers. The roads were little better than trails; so if need be, passengers not only paid a good round sum for the ride, but had to get out and push uphill or help pry the wagon out if it "bogged down." The mail from San Luis to Santa Barbara was carried on horseback by a man Mr. Murray hired for the job. Passengers going north, stage and team, stayed over night at San Miguel. The next lap was to Jolon, and the third day all hands reached Monterey, if things went well. Passengers not going Monterey way, but still north, remained at Hill's Ferry on the Salinas until the stage from Monterey, bound for San Jose, San Juan and San Francisco, came the next day. Both stages had to be ferried over the Salinas river at that point. Alexander Murray was postmaster until 1870, or for fifteen years. In 1861, a tri-weekly stage and mail was put on from San Francisco to Los Angeles. In 1862, this was made a daily four-horse stage. W. L. Ballard was stage agent for this section, with headquarters at El Alamo Pintado, now Ballard, Santa Barbara county. As has been told in writing of the Southern Pacific Railroad Co., the trains

reached Soledad in 1874. Here the Coast Line Stage Co. met passengers and mail sacks. When the road was built to points in this county, the mail, as well as passengers, was carried by train. For years Flint, Bixby & Co. owned the stage line. The stage fare from San Luis Obispo to Soledad was \$17, and a one-night stop was made at the Salinas crossing, Hill's Ferry. Those stage rides were sometimes interrupted by hold-up men, and in winter by flooded streams. An upset in the creek or river was not unknown.

Big, jolly Jim Myers "handled the ribbons" when, in 1887, the stage for San Luis ran from Templeton. To sit beside him, listen to his stories and go spinning around the down-grade curves, or swing upward over the pass on a keen, frosty morning, was an experience worth living for. Horses, harness and coach always shone on starting out, even if they were mud-bespattered or dusty on arrival. Jim was careful of his appearance. Well-shaven, ruddy-faced, his cigar just right and gauntlets "up to snuff," Jim was the beau ideal of a stage driver. He never refused passage to a customer. In October, 1891, at teachers' institute time, he packed "seventeen schoolma'ams and six passengers" into and on top of his stage, took us all safely over Cuesta Pass and deposited us at Hotel Ramona. The stage then ran from Santa Margarita. The writer and a "little peach of a schoolma'am" sat with Jim going and returning, and it was on that trip he told of his hold-up the year before, just where the road makes a sharp curve and a little stream used to trickle out over on the north side of the pass. He called it his "masked ball," because the robbers threw bedticking masks to all hands. Jim "got his" first. "They took my express box and the gents' wallets and 'jooles'; they just let the women make the fuss. I carried the lightest express box and the worst-scared load of passengers over the grade that night I ever traveled with," concluded Jim, flicking the ash from his cigar and touching up his shiny leaders. Shorter and shorter grew the stage line, and when at last the "gap" was closed, Jim doffed his hat and said, "My occupation's gone." He has gone "to the other side," but the memory of him will live as long as any of us do who rode with him in the days when, full of hope, we came to the county to "grow up with the country."

In February, 1883, Kester & Cass put on a line of stages running from Cayucos to San Miguel via Paso Robles. These stages carried mail to Adalida post office and enabled passengers to take passage on the weekly steamers at Cayucos or connect with the Coast Line stages for the north. In 1867 a weekly stage was run from San Luis to San Simeon, leaving every Saturday, fare three dollars. This line was owned by J. P. Lewelling and carried the mail. W. S. Whitaker was postmaster. In April, 1868, Miller bought the line and made semi-weekly trips. Miller sold out to Brown & Castro, who put on daily stages, Sunday excepted. The two-horse stage carried mail and passengers until 1910, when Miles Sanders got the mail contract and used automobiles. In 1914, J. C. Welch got the contract and uses automobiles, carrying mail and passengers. This stage line has carried mail to Morro, Cayucos, Cambria and San Simeon ever since they came into existence as towns. Orle Mayfield runs a private stage line of autos from San Luis Obispo to Cambria. Soon after Templeton was on the map, F. G. Tillman was given a contract to carry mail from there to Cayucos; but when, in 1894, the trains reached San Luis, the mail was sent from there by the up-coast stage line. Several stage lines, mostly autos, run from Paso

Robles. One carries mail to Creston, another to Union and Shandon, another to Adelaida. From San Miguel, stage autos run to Coalinga and the oil fields of Kern county. From Santa Margarita a stage takes mail and passengers to Pozo and Simmler.

### Post Offices

The post offices in the county at present are San Miguel, Paso Robles, Templeton, Santa Margarita, San Luis Obispo, Edna, Arroyo Grande, Berros, Nipomo, Oceano, Pismo, Morro, Cayucos, Cambria, San Simeon, Pozo, Simmler, Creston, Union, Shandon, Estrella, Adelaida, Avila, Atascadero, Bern, Carissa Plains, Cholame, Halcyon, Klau, La Panza, Linne, Musick, Port San Luis, Harmony. Rural delivery routes are numerous.

Total receipts of the San Luis Obispo office for the past ten years are \$201,072.37. There has been an increase of over \$10,000 since 1905, for in that year the receipts were \$14,421.71, and in 1915 the receipts were \$24,597.06. George A. Barnett is postmaster and George E. Kirby assistant postmaster. The office employs five clerks, four city carriers and two rural carriers. The salary is \$2,700 per year for the postmaster and \$1,300 per year for the assistant postmaster. This office is now close to the first-class rank, when the salary will be \$3,000 for postmaster and \$1,500 for the assistant postmaster. Quite a political plum!

## COUNTY BUILDINGS

### Courthouse and Hall of Records

We quote the following from the San Luis Obispo Tribune of November 18, 1871: "Financially, the county is in tolerable circumstances, but beyond a good jail we really have nothing to show for the large revenue annually drawn from the taxpayers. San Luis Obispo should be possessed of a decent courthouse, yet when the county and district court happen in session together, one or the other has to go gerrymandering about town to find a room to sit in. This was the case last month and doubtless will be again. The old adobe building called a courthouse is a marvel of repulsiveness, and that court room with its wretched appointments is a disgrace to the county." Walter Murray was the editor of the Tribune when this article appeared, and no man in the county wielded a stronger influence than he. Mr. Murray was a lawyer and journalist, as well as a fearless man. He served in Stevenson's regiment in the Mexican War, and came with it to California when the regiment was sent here to maintain law and order after the American occupation. In 1853 he came to this county, where he held many offices, the highest being that of judge of the first judicial district. He died October 5, 1875, at the age of fifty years, and is buried in San Luis Obispo.

The jail referred to was on what is now Palm street, and about opposite the present home of Paul M. Gregg. Such good effect had Mr. Murray's pen, backed by other progressive citizens, that the supervisors called for bids for a courthouse and jail, and on May 7, 1872, a contract was awarded to Beck & Walker to construct a courthouse and jail according to specifications, for the sum of \$40,000. The courthouse bonds sold for 96 $\frac{1}{4}$  to 96 $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent., and bore 10 per cent. interest. The building was completed early in 1873. Ornaments and a few changes brought the cost up to \$42,000. The super-



visors were D. W. James, J. C. McPherson and John M. Price. This makes the building forty-three years old in 1916. The jail is in the basement, also the sheriff's offices. If Walter Murray were alive, we should probably hear from him again on the subject of a courthouse. The late J. P. Andrews and Ernest Ceri gave the large plot of ground upon which the courthouse stands. Mr. Andrews alone gave all the ground of the Court school. He was a man whose gifts to the town were never fully known or appreciated.

A hall of records, erected in 1888, stands in the southwest corner of the court park.

### County Hospital

For some years after the organization of the county there was no call for charity, but after the great drought, when land was opened up for settlement, a new class of people entered, population increased rapidly, and there began to be indigent sick to be cared for. Dr. W. M. Hays, the pioneer physician of San Luis Obispo, began caring for them, and under his direction a hospital was arranged for. The present building stands on a rise about a mile southeast of the center of town and was erected in 1878. The grounds cover thirteen acres. Water from the hills is supplied for all uses. In 1882, the records say, the cost was fifteen cents a day per patient, and the number of patients was fifteen. Andrew J. Green was steward. At present J. E. Lewis is superintendent. He reports forty patients, and the cost per capita for meals, eighteen cents a day, and the patients agree that they are well fed. In 1915 a brick building was erected as a detention ward for insane patients. Dr. ~~W. M. Hays~~ is now physician to the county hospital.

### COUNTY FINANCES

In 1867 the records show that assessed real estate values were \$177,711.60; personal property, \$311,121.25; total, \$488,832.85. Tax rate, \$3.85; total tax, \$18,598.90. State levy, \$5,206.16; county levy, \$13,222.74. In 1871 the state board of equalization reported that land in the county was assessed at 50 per cent. of its value. About 1868 an effort was made by the county board of equalization to reject the assessor's valuation of the great landholdings and make the owners pay taxes on real value of land, hoping thereby to compel the owners to break up the great ranches and sell in small parcels to real settlers. Test cases resulted in failure.

A county advisory board has been out during the summer of 1916 estimating the actual cash value of all the property in the county—one member from each supervisory district, five in all, three working together in each district. Deputy Assessor Will Hollister says this will result in at least 50 per cent. increase on valuation of the property as a whole. From the assessor we get this report for 1916-17: The county is in the twenty-seventh class. Land value as assessed, 2,528,275 acres; value, \$9,907,381. Improvements, 837,884; personal property, \$5,663,994. Money and solvent credits, \$1,100. Value of non-operative property, \$19,249,276. Value of property assessed on operative roll, \$756,583. Total value of property as returned by the auditor, \$29,675,859. Value of railroads as assessed by the board of equalization, \$2,142,418. Funded debt, \$66,000, which is the total indebtedness. Tax rate on city property, \$1.09; on outside property, \$2.25.

## CHAPTER XII

## Schools, Churches and Lodges

In gathering data for this history, we heard that Edwin Markham had once taught school in the county. Then we followed the clue, finally learning from his old friend, J. F. Beckett of Arroyo Grande, that Mr. Markham did teach school under a tree down on Berros Creek in 1872. Mr. Beckett was teaching the Arroyo Grande school and sent to the San Jose Normal for a teacher to come down and teach a band of children living too far away from Arroyo Grande to attend the school there. In 1872 Arroyo Grande was the only school south of San Luis Obispo district, so far as any available records show. There were seventeen teachers employed in the county, and P. A. Forrester was county superintendent of schools. In reply to Mr. Beckett's request, Edwin Markham came. If the now famous poet once taught in the county, what a fine thing it would be for our book if we could persuade him to tell us about it himself, in his own way. We wrote to him, and his answer is given in full. With his letter and sketch came a picture of a white-haired, deep-eyed old gentleman. Not the stripling, singing or talking poetry as he rode with his friend Beckett to San Luis Obispo on his galloping pony, the "mustang" he mentions in his letter. Two noted writers, the English novelist and dramatist, Horace Annesley Vachell, and America's beloved poet, Edwin Markham, whom Herbert Bashford called "the chief poet of the English-speaking race," have lived in our county. Each has graciously responded when asked to do so, by giving a sketch of the days when he lived here; each has recalled those days as among his happiest, and expressed a desire and intention of returning to visit the scenes he loved and still cherishes. Below we give Mr. Markham's reply in full.

92 Waters Avenue,  
West New Brighton, N. Y.  
Dec. 14, 1916.

Mrs. Annie L. Morrison:

I am sending you enclosed a brief account of my life in San Luis Obispo County. It may perhaps meet the needs of your history. I am also enclosing a little poem that is a reminiscence of my young manhood when I rode joyfully on the Californian hills. Many a time did I ride a mustang on the Los Berros ridges. This little poem is from my "Man with the Hoe and Other Poems." You may want to give credit to the volume.

I should like to return to the county again and retrace my old footsteps. In fact, I expect to do this when I make my next visit to the Far West. I have not forgotten my friends of that early time, and I trust that they have not altogether forgotten me.

Faithfully yours,

EDWIN MARKHAM.

92 Waters Avenue,  
West New Brighton, N. Y.  
Dec. 16, 1916.

Mrs. Annie L. Morrison:

I have vivid memories of my days on Los Berros Creek in San Luis Obispo County; for it was there that I taught my first school, and had my first adventure in the duties of responsible manhood.

I was graduated from the State Normal School at San Jose, California, in 1872, and forthwith I received a call to go south to teach the school in the highlands of Los Berros. I took train to Gilroy, and there I mounted the six-horse stage for San Luis Obispo. It seems now that the trip took three days and nights of ceaseless riding. I shall never forget the rocking stage, and the owlish faces of my stage companions. All thru the night we heard the crack of the driver's whip, except for the hours when we caught a fitful sleep or paused for a meal at some wayside tavern.

Reaching Arroyo Grande, I found a half-wrecked carriage waiting to take me up the winding canyons to Los Berros. It was a joyful ride in the early fall. It was the dry of the year, and the air was full of the scents of mints and sages; the hills were parched and tawny, patched in places by the wild oats fallen in yellow heaps in the hollows. Cottontails flickered under the rail fences; crows gossiped in the boughs.

Arriving at Los Berros, I found a hearty welcome from the sunburnt mountaineers. But, alas, no schoolhouse was ready. "Well, this need not disturb you," I said to the crestfallen patrons. "Let me have an axe and I will remedy your deficiency."

I went into the wood, selected a fine live-oak, one with broad, friendly branches, all woven so thick that no rain could penetrate the leafy roof. Now cutting down some young saplings, I built a rail fence around my chosen tree. Next I set up in the enclosure short sections of a tree-trunk, for seats and desks for my nine pupils. Finally I erected a high platform next the tree. It was a seat tall and commanding; a seat that had no parallel except that lofty seat on which Satan sat, as told in "Paradise Lost." This was my Oak tree College. So you see that I was the pioneer in the Out-door School movement. Here I led the children along the paths of wisdom. An inquisitive deer once wandered down to survey us with soft wondering eyes. Sometimes we saw the tracks of a fox that visited the college in the darkness. The wildcat sent up his cry of hate on some neighboring cliff in the deep night. The coyote, always at a safe distance, would come from the far cliffs to scoff at the man on the earth and the man in the moon.

Since those days in the first flush of manhood, I have ruled over many schools in buildings that were beautiful and ornate; but never have I elsewhere felt the deep satisfaction, felt the lyric happiness I knew in that green Eden on the hills, in my airy Live-oak College of San Luis Obispo.

LOWEN MARKHAM.

### The Joy of the Hills

I ride on the mountain tops, I ride;  
I have found my life and am satisfied.  
Onward I ride in the blowing oats,  
Checking the field-lark's rippling notes—  
    Lightly I sweep  
    From steep to steep:  
Over my head through the branches high  
Come glimpses of a rushing sky;  
The tall oats brush my horse's flanks;  
Wild poppies crowd on the sunny banks;  
A bee booms out of the scented grass;  
A jay laughs with me as I pass.

I ride on the hills, I forgive, I forget  
    Life's hoard of regret—  
    All the terror and pain  
    Of the chafing chain.  
    Grind on, O cities, grind:  
    I leave you a blur behind.  
I am lifted elate—the skies expand:  
Here the world's heaped gold is a pile of sand.  
Let them weary and work in their narrow walls:  
I ride with the voices of waterfalls!

I swing on as one in a dream—I swing  
Down the airy hollows, I shout, I sing!  
The world is gone like an empty word:  
My body's a bough in the wind, my heart a bird!

—EDWIN MARKHAM.

### SCHOOLS

The first schools of the state were taught by the priests and were connected with the missions. The priests were well educated, but little was taught except reading, writing and the doctrines of the church. Few of the Indian neophytes ever learned to read; their education was mostly "vocational," for they were taught, and compelled to do, the labor of the missions. They made the adobe bricks, cut and hauled the timbers needed in constructing the mission buildings, tended the flocks and herds, were taught to make spikes, nails, chains, and do all sorts of rude blacksmithing. Also they put in the crops of wheat and harvested them, all with no machinery save the rudest; and after the grain was threshed out by flail or trampling horses, the Indians transported it to the storerooms in great baskets and two-wheeled carts drawn sometimes by oxen, often by the Indians themselves. Some of the Indians who showed special musical talent were taught singing, and to play the violin. Often a woman's voice of thrilling sweetness, a man's clear tenor or deep-toned bass, was found among the Indians, and then it was trained to sing the sacred songs and was added to the mission choir. Among the wealthy Spanish families it was the custom to employ private teachers or send the

helped to bring back to California the newer customs in dress and manners, and the returned college student was an authority on fashions eagerly sought.

Such was the school system, or lack of it, until California became a state. Then the American citizens planned a public school system on a broad and liberal basis that has steadily improved until today no state in the Union has its equal. The writer speaks advisedly, having taught in three states ranking among the best in their school systems, and having kept well informed as to the others. In California there is a concerted effort to teach the same subjects in all the schools and along similar lines. The teacher who has nine or ten pupils in a secluded mountain district must be as well trained and as fit for the job as the teacher of the city or town, and is held as responsible for the work she does. Two great universities, eight state normal schools and countless other institutions prepare the teachers. Moral or physical defects are not tolerated. The state furnishes free and uniform text-books and abundant school supplies; and nowhere are there more fine, modern school buildings, equipped with the best of furniture and apparatus. Plenty of school ground, abundance of sunshine and fresh air, well-trained, well-paid teachers at the head of every schoolroom. Is it any wonder the California school children are a happy, brainy lot of youngsters "making good" along all lines?

### Pioneer Schools of California

The first American school in California was a private school opened in San Francisco in 1847 by a Mr. Marston. This school was conducted for about a year. In February, 1848, a meeting of the citizens of San Francisco was called to organize a public school. A board of trustees was chosen, Thomas Douglas, a Yale graduate, was engaged as teacher, and the school opened April 3, 1848. The same month Rev. Albert Williams of the Presbyterian Church opened a private school; and in the fall of 1849, J. C. Pelton opened a school in the Baptist Church.

### Provision for Funds of the Public Schools

In the state constitution of 1849, ample provision was made for the support of the public schools. Each new state organized is allowed 500,000 acres of the public land, to be sold, and the money realized forms a school fund to be invested; and the interest only is used to defray running expenses of schools. In addition to this 500,000 acres, California law sets aside the sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections of every township for public school lands. May 3, 1852, an act was passed providing for the sale of these school lands at \$2.00 per acre. The proceeds of the sales were converted into bonds of the civil funded debt of the state bearing seven per cent. interest. April 23, 1858, an act of the legislature provided for the selection of the unsold portion of the school lands and reduced the price to \$1.25 an acre, cash. When the sales amounted to \$10,000, state bonds were purchased and placed to the credit of the public schools. The interest is paid semi-annually. By January 1, 1858, 237,440 acres of the 500,000 had been sold. The proceeds amounted to \$471,880; and the annual interest, at seven per cent., was \$33,241.60. The sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections amounted to 6,000,000 acres. Later, the legislature fixed the price of the land at \$2.00 per acre. This, when all is sold, would yield a fund of \$12,000,000 and provide, with interest, a large

total fund. Very little school land in the state remains unsold. Later an act provided that the funds realized from each sixteenth and thirty-sixth section should be credited to the school funds of the township in which it was located. Also it was enacted that each county levy a special school tax, not to exceed ten cents on each \$100.

In 1858, a law provided that one-fourth of the poll tax money paid into the state treasury should be used as school funds. When suffrage was granted to women, the law was changed and the poll tax was abolished.

### Public School System Established

John G. Marvin was the first state superintendent of schools. In his report to the legislature, 1852, he recommended creating the office of county superintendent of schools, provision for school libraries, and that the funds realized from the sale of swamp and overflowed lands should go to swell the public school funds; also that a tax of five cents on each \$100 be levied for school purposes. He reported 6,000 children in the state of school age. In 1862, there were twenty public schools in the state, 17,821 children of school age and 3,314 were attending school. He recommended that the county assessor should be county superintendent of schools ex-officio. This was done in this county; and we find that in 1857 Charles Varian, by virtue of his office as assessor, was also county superintendent of schools. In 1859, we find F. Wickenden elected to the office of county superintendent of schools, and in 1860, P. Dunn—the redoubtable “Patsey” of Paso Robles, we suppose.

### First Public Schools in the County

The first public school in the county was at San Luis Obispo and was held in a room of the old Mission building. Don Guillermo Serles, a native of Chile, was the teacher. Spanish was the language taught, and the district comprised the whole county. Don Miguel Merchant, an “Irishman from Mexico,” was teacher number two. Spanish continued to be the language and the teaching was by “rote”—the teacher repeated the lesson to the pupils and then they in concert repeated it to him. The records of the court of sessions show that Merchant occasionally received \$100 for his services as teacher. August 22, 1853, we find the supervisors passing this order: “Ordered that the salary paid out of the county fund to the teacher cease until funds be received, and that each scholar shall pay five dollars per month tuition.”

D. F. Newsom really organized the public schools of the county. He came in 1853 and was soon appointed county clerk, and by general consent took charge of school matters. Mr. Parker followed Merchant as teacher, but in 1854 Mr. Newsom became teacher and began to teach English, requiring the pupils to translate Spanish into English and English into Spanish. At this time there were only forty children in the county who could speak English at all. In 1853 there were in the whole state but fifty-three schools and fifty-six teachers. Owing largely to the crimes in our county, as previously related, settlers did not come. In 1861 only two schools existed in the county. The one at San Luis Obispo was known as Mission district; and up in the northern end of the county was San Simeon school district, where in 1859 a little schoolhouse had been erected in a cañon adjacent to Santa Rosa creek.

A small area of government land had been settled on by a few American families, and in 1859 Jerry Phelan is credited with having built the first schoolhouse in the county north of San Luis Obispo, which may or may not have built a schoolhouse by this time. We learn that after the room in the Mission was abandoned, school was held in a building across the road; and later a two-room building was built on the lot where the Nipomo school now is.

In 1861 the total number of children of school age was seven hundred and thirty-five. Of these, sixty-two attended Mission school and thirteen San Simeon school. E. A. Clark taught the former, and Miss S. M. Clark the latter; Mr. Clark's salary was \$75 per month and Miss Clark received \$30 per month. There are really no records of the schools until 1861. After 1863 there is a lapse until 1866, after which the records are quite complete. A list of the early county superintendents of schools shows F. Wickenden, 1859; P. Dunn, 1860; Alexander Murray, 1861 to 1865, when P. A. Forrester was elected and served until 1868. James H. Gooch served until 1870; Forrester was re-elected and served until 1873, when J. M. Felts got the job for four years. In 1878, F. E. Darke was elected and held the office two years. In 1880 J. F. Beckett was elected and served two years; in 1883 Mr. Felts was again serving. Here we dig up an old record which says that D. F. Newsom was superintendent in 1853, W. C. Dana in 1857. Going back to the records, William Armstrong was elected and served eight years, Mr. Messer followed, serving four years, and then came Mrs. Adelaide Woods for four years. In January, 1903, F. P. Johnson took the office; in January, 1907, F. E. Darke; and in January, 1911, W. S. Wight, who was again elected in 1914 and is serving at the present time.

In 1882 there were fifty-three school districts and 2,795 pupils of school age, with an average daily attendance of 1,110. There were fifty-nine teachers employed; and of these twenty-three were men and thirty-six, women. The county superintendent received a salary of \$600 per year and could also teach school to help out his income. The average length of the school year (time school was taught) in 1882 was six and nine-tenths months. Total valuation of school property, \$43,593. In 1881, the average monthly salary of the men teachers was \$73 and of the women, \$63.

### Pioneer Teachers

From the list of teachers teaching in the county in 1883, of those who continued for many years to teach in the county we find Miss Cynthia Kingery, now Mrs. Stringfield; Miss Cornelia Richards, now on the retired list; Miss Mary L. McKennon, retired; Fred E. Darke, retired; Miss Clara B. Churchill, still teaching in Paso Robles; J. M. Felts; A. F. Parsons. Mr. Parsons is now county surveyor. J. M. Felts quit teaching and was in the real estate business for some years, but has resumed teaching, being now employed in the Iron Springs school. Mrs. Stringfield has taught much of the time, between whiles rearing a family of children; at present she is teaching the Alamo school. In 1883 the county superintendent's salary was raised to \$1000, and he could not teach school while holding office. In May, 1882, Superintendent J. F. Beckett issues a lengthy report from which we cull a few interesting items. Cynthia Kingery is then teaching Ascension school, and with the help of the

boys has killed a big rattler with twelve buttons to his suit, all on the tail. In Oak Grove district Mr. Evans is teaching and has taken his organ to school, where great delight prevails over the possession of so rare an instrument as an organ. The schoolhouse is of logs, but the view outside is beautiful; and inside, oh joy! there is an organ, and a teacher to play it! Canyon school, James A. Ford, teacher, closes with an entertainment and picnic where apples and candy are passed and three prizes given out. Miss Sallie Findley is teaching Cienega school, a new district. Corral de Piedra has been whitewashed, a fence built and on the walls is a "neatly framed motto card presented by Mrs. Patchett." Estrella school has twenty-nine pupils enrolled, Cornelia Richards, teacher. During the ten years the school has existed, with from twenty-five to seventy children attending, only one death has occurred among the pupils. (Pretty healthy locality!) Fairview is a new school built by subscription. Franklin school has thirty pupils, order below par. This school will be moved to Cayucos if the citizens of "that thriving city" (Cayucos) will subscribe funds for a new schoolhouse. (They did, but the "order" has always been hard to keep, it is said.) Hesperian school (now Cambria) has been ravaged by an epidemic of diphtheria; F. E. Darke is teacher. At times one hundred and fifty children have attended the school, and for twelve years no pupil has died; but when this scourge came, climate was not equal to it. Home school has forty pupils. Agnes M. Doud, teacher, ranks as one of the best in the county. The superintendent tries to visit Huer-Huero school, gets lost, scans the roadside carefully for some trace of a road, goes two miles in the wrong direction, turns back, follows a wagon track, goes up a sandy cañon, finally reaches Moody's place. Moody directs him to cross the ridge to another branch of the Huer-Huero and go down to Donovan's place, where he is told to tie up his steed and walk a half mile. He arrives late in the day and finds Jack L. Dunn, a practical printer, also a graduate of the Warrensburg, Mo., Normal, in charge; log schoolhouse "situated in a sequestered glen." (Quite so!) Los Osos school needs a fence and shade trees.

In the fall of 1876 "Mission School," now known as the Court school, corner of Mill and Santa Rosa streets, was erected. It is described as "an imposing structure of two stories, 50x88 feet on the ground, costing \$14,000." J. P. Andrews gave the ground and in the deed it is stipulated that it can only be used for school purposes. If ever the trustees try to sell the ground or use it for other purposes, it reverts to the Andrews heirs. C. H. Woods was then principal of the school. Mountain View and Oak Flat were new schools. Paso Robles school had sixteen pupils, Miss Annie Osborn, teacher.

Thirty-four years have passed since Superintendent Beckett made his voluminous report of 1882, which was published in the Tribune. During those years the towns of San Miguel, Paso Robles, Templeton, Santa Margarita, Pismo, Oceano and Nipomo have come into existence. All the others have increased in population and the county has been well settled with thrifty, enterprising citizens. At present there are ninety-one school districts, employing one hundred sixty-four teachers. Of these, twenty-six are high-school teachers, four are special teachers, and one hundred thirty-four are teaching in the grammar-school grades. Grammar schools employing more than one teacher are: Atascadero, 1; Cambria, 2; Pismo, 2; Cayucos, 2;



Morro, 2; Nipomo, 2; Oceano, 2; San Miguel, 3; Santa Margarita, 4; Shandon, 2; Templeton, 3; San Luis Obispo, 20; Arroyo Grande, 6; Paso Robles, 17.

### School Funds

For the year 1915-1916 the state appropriation for grammar schools in this county was \$55,994.68; county funds, \$49,373; special taxes, \$19,622; bond sales, \$64,692. All the bonds sold at a good premium. The total enrollment in grammar schools was 3,474; average daily attendance, 2,897. The high school had 354 enrolled, and an average attendance of 299. High school funds were: State appropriation, \$5,561.01; county fund, \$15,480; district taxes, \$15,826.70.

### A Much Misunderstood Law

The first schools of the state and county were connected with the missions, and of course the doctrines of the church were zealously taught, a perfectly reasonable thing to expect and to do. When the public school system was being considered, a body of wise, far-seeing men looked beyond the present moment. So far all the schools had been really church schools under the control of the Roman Catholic Church, teaching the doctrines of that body. If the public school funds were apportioned to such schools, those teaching the Catholic faith, every other denomination on earth might eventually start up schools in California and demand support out of the public school funds. No one discredited the efforts at education so far made, but to safeguard the school funds and to prevent chaos in future years, the legislature in 1855 passed the law "No sectarian doctrines shall be taught in schools receiving public money, and no money shall be apportioned to any school not taught by a regularly examined and licensed teacher."

This law, wise and good, has been distorted by overzealous, ignorant religionists; we do not say Christians, but religionists. "Back East" they will tell you with bulging eyes how the law forbids the reading of the Bible in the public schools. It forbids fools and zealots trying to expound it for their own or a sect's benefit. Nowhere in the school law of California is the Bible mentioned, and since it is impossible to study literature without a knowledge of Bible stories and references, any teacher is at liberty, in order to enhance the value of the piece of literature being studied, to read that portion of the Bible to her pupils and tell them all the history she or he knows connected with it; but if the teacher attempted to expound her private opinion on religious views she would be told to seek another job or lose her credentials. The California school law makes it obligatory upon every teacher to "teach manners and morals" as a part of the daily routine, but she cannot try to make Presbyterians, Baptists, Scientists or Catholics out of them. Show us a higher, purer-minded, cleaner-living set of teachers anywhere than those reared and educated in California if you can. Some come from across the Sierras and cry about not being able to use the Bible in school. What they need is first to use in their own lives the Bible principles of true Christianity and to back that up with the thorough preparation that real California teachers get who are reared and educated for the profession right here in this state, where respect and obedience to law are considered a

## HIGH SCHOOLS

### San Luis Obispo High School

The San Luis Obispo or Mission district high school employs nine regular and four special teachers. A. H. Mabley is city superintendent and principal of the high school. The high school was first held in that dear, but awful old relic, the "Pavilion"; then in the Court school; and in August, 1906, it was opened in the fine \$40,000 stone building it now occupies on Marsh street. This school ranks well and sends many young men and women yearly to the universities and normal schools, while equipping many more for useful positions. It has a commercial course, and manual training and domestic science and arts courses.

### Paso Robles High School

Paso Robles high school employs eight teachers, and has a good building and a large tract of land within the city limits for agricultural training. One or two large auto busses bring the students to and from San Miguel and other points. This school has an attendance of over one hundred pupils.

### Templeton Union High School

This school began operations last August in the free reading room and a big canvas annex. It opened with three teachers and thirty pupils. A tract of nine acres sufficient for agriculture and all other purposes was bought, and bonds for \$5,000 were issued for the building, which is of concrete, and so arranged that necessary additions can easily be made as required. At this writing, January 8, 1917, the new building is ready for occupancy.

### Arroyo Grande Union High School

Arroyo Grande had what it called a high school away back in 1898. It was held in Good Samaritan Hall, presided over by James Stringfield. Next it was in the grammar-school building, and A. F. Parsons was in charge. Finally there was a movement to organize a union high school, with six or seven districts included. It was voted, but when it came to collecting the taxes for it the fur flew. There were lawsuits, much wrangling, and not a little bitterness. A modest wooden building went up on "Crown Hill," and three or four teachers were employed, but for some years it was not accredited to the university. At last it rose to that dignity, also let go some of the more disgruntled districts, but held on to enough to be a union high school. Last year it voted \$12,000 for a new building, which is brick-faced and near the former wooden building. It now employs six teachers, has manual training and domestic science teachers, and is prospering.

## NEW GRAMMAR SCHOOLS

Paso Robles voted bonds for \$40,000, built one of the finest concrete grammar-school buildings in the state, furnished it beautifully, and had it ready for occupancy at the beginning of the school year, 1916-17.

Santa Margarita voted bonds for \$20,000, built a beautiful concrete school house with large assembly hall, and on May day, 1916, celebrated its opening

with a picnic, barbecue, a play by the pupils and speeches by various county orators.

Atascadero voted \$16,000 in its first school bond and a second bond for \$3,000. The funds are now being used to erect a fine modern building. The New district bonded itself for \$1,700 to build with. Simmler voted a special tax of \$3,000 for a new school. Sunderland voted bonds for \$1,600. Lincoln is bonded for \$2,700. Shandon sold a \$4,000 bond and built a fine new schoolhouse; and after, lo! these many years, San Marcos has as pretty a new schoolhouse as one could wish—but thereby hangs a tale:

In August, 1914, Miss Helen Morrison was engaged to teach San Marcos school. The tiny old shack stood on its wind-swept slope, cold in winter, zipping hot in summer, and the tramps camped within its gates or slept on its floor. "Campers" left their old tin cans and rags, gypsies hung their dazzling colored wash to dry on its fence, evil-minded vandals wrote vile words upon its doorposts. Yea, San Marcos was in sore straits, and the inhabitants thereof indifferent to its plight. The children felt the demoralizing effect and were rebellious to it all, the teacher included. This plucky young woman avoided the broken boards in the floor, thrashed one or two big boys, won their respect, and later their boyish devotion, mothered the little tots, taught the lessons well, saw that they were learned and finally was engaged for a second year. Towards the close of her second year and when things were running like clock-work, she was offered ninety dollars a month in a district that had a good schoolhouse. The trustees spoke to her about taking the school for a third year. She told them of her ninety-dollar offer and said, "If I decide to remain here it is only with your promise of a new schoolhouse for next year; I will waive the ninety-dollar offer, will go on for the seventy-five-dollar salary, but a new schoolhouse has got to come." Result, those good people got busy right away; they respected the teacher for her grit and self-respect. They respected themselves and their children when they got really waked up, so they voted \$2,500 to build the pretty new building and kept the teacher who was doing a good job for them when she made them see their duty. San Marcos has a good board of trustees, a schoolhouse to be proud of, twenty bright and well-behaved pupils, an up-to-date teacher, and woe betide the tramp, camper or gypsy who dares deface or maltreat any of its property now.

A ride over our county will soon convince the traveler that we are getting up by the band wagon when it comes to schoolhouses, all except our chief city—and of that we are ashamed. The two old grammar-school buildings in San Luis Obispo are a disgrace to the town. The Court school, forty years old, is an old fire-trap now, whatever it was at the beginning. The three-room schoolhouse on Nipomo street was burned down in 1885, when D. M. Meredith was principal. In 1886 a fine four-room, two-story building was put up at a cost of \$6,000. Later, about 1900, it was added to, and now contains eight schoolrooms, but many regard it as a menace to those forced to attend or teach school there. In the yard are two or three little shacks used for schoolrooms; one is the domestic-science plant. Time and again a strong effort has been made to vote bonds for a new building, but always they are turned down. The last school-bond fight was early in 1916. F. E. Darke was principal of the Nipomo street school for fifteen years, and he it was who designed and with the boys laid out and planted the pretty grounds fronting

the building. The Mitchell block was bought a few years ago for additional school grounds. Recently a plot back of the high school and adjoining it was also purchased. This was a wise move and one or two more pitched battles like that of 1916 will end in victory for better school buildings for San Luis Obispo. The town is rapidly improving along other lines, and it is the worst kind of bad business to refuse to build modern up-to-date schoolhouses for the children.

## OTHER SCHOOLS

### Academy of the Immaculate Heart

On Palm street, not far from the Mission, stands the "Convent School," as it is generally called. The group of buildings is upon ground once a part of the Mission lands, probably a part of the fifty-two acres set aside for the use of the church when John Wilson's claims to all the Mission buildings and land were refuted and settled by state officials. This school is in charge of the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. It was opened to students August 16, 1876, with eight Sisters as teachers, four of whom were natives of Spain and four natives of this country, all belonging to the order. Bishop Amat and Bishop Mora assisted at the opening of the school, and Bishop Mora presented the institution with a fine piano. It is both a day and boarding school, giving a course of instruction similar to or corresponding with the eight grammar-school grades. There is a sewing class for the girls, and the musical instruction is of a high order. A boys' school, for boys in the grammar grades, is connected with the Convent school for girls. There are now one hundred twenty pupils and eight Sisters in charge. In 1882 a three-story wing, 90x28 feet, was added to the main building, also a separate building one hundred feet long. In one end is the chapel, 43x26 feet, ceiling 22 feet high. A gallery extends across one end. The upper rooms are dormitories. In the chapel are beautiful stained-glass windows. The building cost \$5,000 when erected. These Sisters exert a great influence upon the children in their charge, and needless to say the Convent school is highly valued by San Luis Obispo citizens.

### The State Polytechnic School

Just north of the city limits, facing the Southern Pacific Railroad, is a beautiful group of cream-colored buildings that excites the interest of many passing on the long trains. This is the State Polytechnic School, the realization of Myron Angel's vision and of Assemblyman Warren M. John's and Senator S. C. Smith's unceasing efforts in its behalf. December 25, 1896, Myron Angel published in the Breeze a letter urging all political parties to "bury the hatchet" and unite in an effort to get a state normal school established here. C. H. Phillips, president of the West Coast Land Co., had offered fifteen acres of ground as a gift to such a school. Budd was governor, a Democrat; Smith, the senator, was a Republican, and our assemblyman at the time was J. K. Burnett, a Populist. Mr. Angel called attention to our fine, even climate and quoted the weather bureau. The Tribune joined in with the Breeze, the people got busy and called a public meeting. A petition to the legislature was prepared and a collection taken to get it typed. A committee on sites was appointed consisting of Benjamin H. Brooks, J. D.

Fowler and W. A. Henderson. Mr. Phillips' offer was either disregarded or withdrawn, one would suppose.

In 1897 Smith introduced a bill to the legislature asking that a normal school be located here, very soon after San Diego put in a claim for a normal school. So a committee was sent to examine both places. February 20, 1897, the committee on its return from San Diego stopped to look over the ground here and of course they were royally entertained. A reception and banquet at Hotel Ramona was tendered, and the city council voted one hundred dollars towards it. Myron Angel was called upon to speak. In his remarks he told of how he arrived in San Francisco in December, 1849, after crossing the plains on foot from Fort Leavenworth to San Diego direct from school on the Atlantic coast. Passage on a brig to San Francisco had taken his last cent, and he walked the muddy streets in the winter rain penniless, ragged and hungry. He said a man hailed him with, "Say, boy, do you want a job?" "Yes," he eagerly replied. "Get up on that roof and nail on those shingles; I'll give you eight dollars a day." He blurted out, "Mister, I never drove a nail in my life." "To hell with you!" he called, and whistled for another boy. "I met other boys who could work with their hands and earn good money; I had plenty of book lore, but no one had a job for me. Gentlemen of the Committee: I have planned for a school here which shall teach the hand as well as the head; so that no young man or woman attending it need be sent into the world as helpless to earn a living as I was when I landed in San Francisco in 1849." Hon. Sig Bettman from San Francisco arose and said: "I have been opposed to any more normal schools and came here determined to oppose this one; but I will return and vote for a Polytechnic, and do all in my power to carry it through."

A bill was presented, passed both houses, but Budd vetoed it. Economy was the plea. The bill called for a school teaching trades and agriculture. In 1898 a governor was to be elected; so with zeal the friends of the proposed school "went to it." Gage ran on the Republican ticket; Maguire, on the Democratic. A new party, the Silver Republicans, convened in Los Angeles, intending to endorse the Democratic nominee; so Mr. Angel attended the convention and did some lobbying; at any rate the Breeze received and published this: "Alcatraz Landing, Cal., August 29, 1898. Breeze, San Luis Obispo. Our polytechnic school adopted in platform and approved by Maguire. Signed: Angel and Kimball." December 8, 1898, at a public meeting held in San Luis Obispo, Angel read a letter from Smith promising that the first bill he introduced should be for the school. C. H. Johnson, D. Lowe, Thomas Barrett, J. P. Andrews, A. McAllister, Myron Angel, A. F. Fitzgerald were named a committee to bond and secure options from which a site could be selected. The Bakersfield Democratic paper "kicked" at the school, and is still periodically throwing out its heels; but "we should worry." In 1899, a bill for the school was again presented, but the assemblymen were fighting over the payment of bounties on coyote scalps. Our assemblyman had favored the bill for scalps, so his enemies got his scalp and voted down the bill.

In 1900, Warren M. John was sent to the assembly from this county. He and Smith at once presented a bill for the school. In January, 1901, a bill passed both houses and was signed by the governor. It was to take effect and be in force after January 1, 1902. Governor Gage appointed War-

ren M. John, William Graves, of San Luis Obispo, Senator S. C. Smith of Bakersfield, F. A. Hihn of Santa Cruz and E. J. Wickson of San Francisco a board of trustees. An appropriation of \$50,000 had been made. March 12, 1902, the trustees met in San Luis Obispo. There were banquets, addresses, etc. It was said our young assemblyman, John, "wore a smile a mile wide" when the bill he fought so hard for was a law. He was only twenty-eight years old, and probably about the best-beloved young politician in the state.

The commission had selected the site offered by Mr. Lowe. At the Palace Hotel, May 26, 1902, the deeds were delivered to the commission charged with establishing the school, which consisted of Governor Gage, State Superintendent of Schools Thomas J. Kirk, and the board of trustees. Prof. LeRoy Anderson of the state university was chosen director of the school at a salary of \$200 per month. In September, 1902, Mr. Graves died and R. L. Shackelford of Paso Robles was selected to fill the vacancy. Early in 1903 the corner stone of the main building was laid with due ceremony. October 1, 1903, the school received its first pupils, fifteen in number—Laura and Irene Righetti, Lila Weaver, of San Luis Obispo; Kent S. Knowlton, Port Harford; Allen V. and Charles J. Emmet, Arroyo Grande; Mary Bello, Morro; Gustavus and Henry Wade, Francis D. Buck, Owen Hollister, of Goleta; Paul L. Williams, Ventura; William H. Boswell, Soledad; Herbert H. Cox, Morgan Hill; Frank L. Flinn, Descano, in San Diego county. The faculty was Director Anderson, S. S. Twombly, Gwendolin Stewart, O. L. Heald and Naomi Lake, stenographer. A minute history of the school was written and published by Myron Angel; so for all data other than what is here given we refer you to his book, as it covers all points up to 1907-1908.

Many fine teachers were added to the faculty, among them Miss May Secrest, domestic science. In November, 1907, Mr. Anderson resigned and LeRoy B. Smith, a graduate of Cornell, was chosen director. In 1913 Smith resigned and Prof. Ryder became director, and is still at the head of the school. In 1913 the tenth anniversary of the school was celebrated with a beautiful pageant and three-day glorification. Many new shops and barns have been built, a beautiful domestic arts building, boys' dormitory, dining hall and electric plant. In December, 1907, there were one hundred thirty-four students attending. The enrolment for 1916-1917 is about two hundred. The school fills a great need, and to show what its future may be we append this from the Telegram of January 6, 1917. "After years of but little or no recognition by the state, the California Polytechnic School is to be considered at this year's session of the legislature for permanent improvements.

"The State Board of Control has requested that the state architectural department go over the ground plans of the Polytechnic and make plans for a permanent building plan similar to that of the University of California. In compliance with the board's request, Charles F. Dean, assistant state architect; A. R. Widdowson, chief draftsman; and James Dean, chief designer, are now at the Polytechnic, and with Director Ryder are making a careful survey of the grounds.

"The plans are for making the Polytechnic one of the state's influential, permanent institutions, sufficient for the instructing of one thousand students.

"It is expected that this year's legislature will pass an appropriation suf-

ficient for the erection of five permanent buildings: an armory, an administration building, an agricultural building, a science hall, and a combined shops building."

### OUR HONORED VETS

In writing this history of the San Luis Obispo County schools, we feel it only right to pay a tribute to those who, for many years, have faithfully served as teachers. Not only have they taught the curriculum required, but in hundreds of cases they have been as "a lamp unto the feet and a light unto the path" of those struggling for an education under adverse circumstances or, more pitiful yet, of those hampered by low moral surroundings. To help a child realize its possibilities, to give a helping hand at the right moment, to encourage in all noble endeavor and aspiration, to have the divine mother-instinct and use it for everybody's child, this is what makes so many teachers revered long years after they are dust. There are other names that belong among the "vets," but for various reasons we have obtained no data other than what we could recall. Miss Mary McKennon was a highly prized teacher of this county for nearly thirty years. Mrs. Stringfield is mentioned elsewhere; C. H. Woods wielded a good influence in our schools for many years; and there are other names that will come to the minds of our mature readers, of well-beloved teachers—Mrs. Lesa Lane for one, and Miss Lottie Wise for another.

#### Mrs. Mary S. Spaulding

Probably no better-loved nor more capable teacher ever taught in the county than Mrs. Spaulding. She was born at Killingly, Conn., was educated in the grammar and high schools of her native town, and taught nine years in the union graded schools of Danielson, Conn. She came to California in January, 1884, and her first teaching in the state was in the Home district. She then taught in San Luis Obispo, but a change caused her to go to Arroyo Grande. She taught there for a while, then took charge of the Laguna school, which position she held for fifteen years. Later she taught at Stowe, Avila and Santa Fe. She taught almost continuously in this county for thirty years, only ceasing during a severe illness. In 1914 she retired on a \$500-a-year annuity granted for thirty years' service by the Retirement Salary Board. Both of Mrs. Spaulding's parents were teachers. A brother, seventy years of age, is now principal of Brown School at Hartford, Conn. He has just completed fifty years of service, twenty-five of which have been in the "Brown School."

#### Miss Clara Belle Churchill

Miss Churchill surely deserves a place among our "vets." She was born in Marysville in 1855, was educated in San Jose, graduated from the high school in 1873 and from the normal in 1876. She taught two years in the northern part of the state and in 1878 came to this county and taught in the Mission school of San Luis Obispo. Later she taught at Los Osos, West Santa Fe, East Santa Fe, then back to San Luis, where she taught for five years in the grammar and primary grades. After teaching for five years in San Luis she taught at Excelsior, Lincoln and Cuesta. In 1888 she went to Paso Robles when there were only three teachers in the town, taking charge of the primary work. There she has been for twenty-eight years, constantly

employed as teacher of the first grade. The little "beginners" go joyfully off to school, for there they can spend lovely hours with Miss Churchill, whom they all know and already love. She is "pretty" too, they say, and no one disputes it. She says that for some years now she has had pupils who are children of former pupils of hers; and going to school to "papa's teacher" is now their delight. She proudly says, "I've seen the schools grow from three teachers to ten in our new \$40,000 grammar school and seven teachers in our fine high school." By the way, this new concrete grammar school is one of the finest in the state. A large plot of ground has just been bought for agricultural uses; irrigation is taught, using sulphur water from the school's artesian well. A new barn with stalls for twenty horses and room for as many vehicles is also being built. It's good to go to school in Paso Robles.

#### **Flora E. Armstrong**

Mrs. Armstrong deserves mention among those who have had a strong influence in our public schools. She came to California via Panama in 1860, was educated by private tutor in her uncle's home, as there were few good grammar schools at that date. She took a course at the University of the Pacific and at the San Jose normal. She taught in the San Jose city schools and was vice-principal of the San Jose high school. In October, 1876, she came to this county and taught several years in San Luis Obispo. She went to New Mexico, but in 1896 returned to this county and taught three and a half years at San Marcos. Next she was principal of the Templeton school for five years, then principal of Arroyo Grande school for six years, and vice-principal of the high school there for three years. She is now on the retired list. Mrs. Armstrong also was a member of the county board of education in Santa Clara county for two years, and was on the board of this county for some years.

#### **William M. Armstrong**

William M. Armstrong crossed the plains by ox team in 1864, going to Portland, Oregon. He was twenty years old and entered the Portland Commercial College, graduating the next year. He came to this county in 1878, taught many years, was twice elected county superintendent of schools, 1886-1890. Before being elected he was principal of the Court school in San Luis Obispo. In 1896 he founded the Armstrong Business College in San Luis Obispo and trained many successful business men and women. He died, July 13, 1909.

#### **Clara E. Paulding**

Mrs. Paulding has been identified with the schools of the county since 1883. She taught two years in Arroyo Grande, then in Cañon district, two years in San Luis Obispo town school, then taught the Spring school near Shandon, while homesteading a government claim. Later she taught five years in Arroyo Grande, a term in Stowe district, two years in Huasna, and is now teaching her fourth year in Branch school. From 1900 to 1910, Mrs. Paulding was teaching music and acting as substitute in Arroyo Grande school. She says, "This is what might be called a checkered career." At any rate it has been a very useful, well-appreciated career. No woman in Arroyo Grande has ever held or now holds a higher place in social and school life



than this much-loved woman, who for years has served on the school board, and is sought as an authority on questions of the public or moral good. Clara Edwards Paulding is a descendant of the noted Jonathan Edwards of colonial days and sister of Professor Edwards, teacher of mathematics in the University at Berkeley. She married Dr. Edward Paulding, the pioneer physician of Arroyo Grande. They have one daughter, Ruth, now a teacher in the Arroyo Grande high school.

#### F. E. Darke

No man has been more active and efficient in the schools of the county for the last forty-seven years than F. E. Darke. Mr. Darke served four years in the Civil War, and was in many hard-fought battles to save our country from disunion and ruin. He did not come to California to escape his duty, but continued to serve his country, for he went right to work helping boys and girls make men and women of themselves, teaching them the lessons in their books and the lessons of self-help, self-respect and honorable living. Mr. Darke came to the state from New York in 1868. In 1869 he was employed to teach the San Simeon school. From 1870 to 1882, or for twelve years, he taught the Hesperian school, now called Cambria school. Each year when the funds were used up at Hesperian school, he would teach a summer term for Mammoth Rock, Santa Rosa, San Simeon, Salinas or Morro school. In 1882, Mr. Darke was elected county recorder, and from 1882 to 1889 he filled that office. In 1889 he was engaged as principal for the Nipomo street school in San Luis Obispo and taught there until he resigned in December, 1907, to take office as county superintendent of schools. He served four years, and did much to improve certain conditions. One thing was to compel trustees to pay the salary granted by law, not less than \$70 per month for eight months; also he saw to it that ladies looking for "a good time in a cow country" left for other fields, and teachers able and willing to teach school got the positions. Mr. Darke advocated teaching the essentials rather than the furbelows of education, and the schools of the county showed marked improvement under his rule as superintendent. In 1911 he again taught Cambria school, remaining there until 1913. His last active schoolroom work was at Nipomo in 1914. He retired on the \$500-a-year annuity in 1915, after having served in the ranks four years as a soldier of infantry, and forty years as captain in a schoolroom. Mr. Darke's wife died, leaving a family of small children. These children were all raised by the father, well looked after and every one sent to a university or college. Such a father deserves the respect of all, and few have it in larger measure than Mr. Darke.

### CHURCHES

#### Pioneer Churches

The first religious services held in the county were those of San Luis and San Miguel missions. September 1, 1772, Junipero Serra hung a bell to a branch of a big sycamore tree on the bank of San Luis creek. After ringing it, hoping to attract the Indians, he blessed and raised the cross and said mass.

The first Protestant church built in the county was erected by the Methodist Episcopal congregation in December, 1869, at San Luis Obispo.

The first service in the building was held on the Sabbath, January 2, 1870, Rev. A. P. Hendon, pastor. The pastor inserted a notice in the Tribune announcing Sunday school at 9:30 A. M. and preaching at 11 A. M. He stated that the building was enclosed. "We have ordered the windows and doors, which will cost not to exceed \$50, and at our first service we hope to raise this amount by collection." It is hoped he got it, for going to church in winter without doors or floor or windows in the building would mean a surplus of fresh air, though now we are apt to have too little of it. If we had to take up a "collection" to pay for fresh air, we should likely have it in abundance. This building cost \$1,400 cash. In 1874, Rev. D. H. Haskins pastor, the church lot on Garden street was bought, and the church building moved onto it. There were repairs and additions made; and the new edifice was dedicated June 21, 1874, Rev. C. V. Anthony from Oakland preaching the sermon. The congregation was the largest ever seen in the town; and when the minister stated that they had a debt of \$900, and "passed the hat," the enthusiasm was so great that \$1020 was dropped in. The ladies had raised enough to buy a bell weighing one thousand pounds, and this was placed in the new belfry. In 1911 the congregation erected the present commodious structure on the corner of Morro and Pacific streets, and built a pretty parsonage. This building cost \$18,000, and was dedicated February 19, 1911. Rev. H. F. Munger was pastor. Rev. Dr. Charles Edward Locke of Los Angeles preached the dedicatory sermon.

Rev. A. B. Spooner was the first Protestant minister in the county. He resided on Old creek, was chaplain of the San Simeon Lodge, F. and A. M., and preached wherever and whenever he was called upon to do so. He said words of comfort to the dying, preached the funeral sermons of those who died, and helped the living by his counsel. In time he moved to Morro, and being well acquainted with the bay, sometimes acted as pilot. On the evening of February 5, 1877, he heard the steamer "Mary Taylor" whistling for a pilot. He started out in a small boat, but the tide was racing out to sea and capsized the little boat. The current was sweeping through the channel by Morro Rock and his body was never recovered. Memorial services were held in all the Protestant churches for this good man.

### Episcopal Church

The first Protestant Episcopal church in the county was St. Stephen's in San Luis Obispo. It was organized in August, 1867. May 14, 1868, it elected vestrymen and officers: Dr. W. W. Hays, senior warden; J. B. Townsend, junior warden; G. F. Sauer, treasurer; John Flint, secretary; J. H. Hollister, O. Kemp, J. Jones, I. C. Smith, vestrymen. Rev. H. Chetwood was the first rector that we find on record. He was stationed at San Diego, but frequently came up here and held services. The first service was held in Odd Fellows Hall, July 28, 1872. In April, 1873, at a meeting held, plans for a church building were submitted, and it was decided to erect a building on the northeast corner of Nipomo and Pismo streets. The church cost \$3,000 and seats about one hundred persons. Rev. C. H. L. Chandler is now the rector in charge.

### Presbyterian Churches

The first Presbyterian Church services in the county were held in San Luis Obispo by Rev. Frazier of Oakland, July 18, 1874. May 12, 1875, a

number of friends of that denomination met at the residence of Judge Venable and took the preliminary steps towards organizing a church, which were completed the next Sunday, May 16, 1875. Rev. Alvin Ostrom was engaged as pastor, and the services were held in Little & Cochran's hall. This hall is now a part of the building occupied by the Golden State Hotel. About 1884 a church seating two hundred people was built on the corner of Morro and Marsh streets. This building was moved to the lot adjoining, given to the church by Mr. Henry Bruhner, named Hersman Hall, and is now used for social meetings, Sunday school rooms, etc. In 1905 the fine edifice now occupied by the church was dedicated; Rev. Harry Hillard was pastor and Rev. Hugh K. Walker of Los Angeles preached the dedication sermon. Rev. John D. Habbick is now the pastor. After the influx of settlers that came with the Southern Pacific Railway, in 1886, Presbyterian churches were organized and built at Templeton, Estrella and Shandon. For years the Estrella and Shandon churches were lively institutions, but at Estrella the church has been without a pastor for years, and at Shandon the services are only held irregularly.

### LODGES

Lodges are numerous and prosperous. The first lodge organized in the county was a Masonic lodge, San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 148. Dr. Joseph M. Havens, "the father of Masonry" in the county, took the first steps and a charter dated May 16, 1861, was obtained from the Grand Lodge of California. There were nine charter members. Later in the year others joined, Governor Pacheco being one. The great drought of 1862-63-64 caused many changes in population, and the lodge surrendered its charter. Early in 1869, San Simeon Lodge, No. 169, of Cambria was organized, and a charter was granted October 14, 1869. On December 12, 1869, a public dedication of the lodge was held, and a grand ball concluded the ceremonies. Here O. K. Smith figures as one of the committee; he was Senior Warden of the lodge. King David Lodge, No. 209, was organized; a charter was obtained October 14, 1870; and on November 1, 1870, it was duly instituted in San Luis Obispo. The first I. O. O. F. lodge in the county was instituted March 3, 1870, at San Luis Obispo and named Chorro Lodge. The second lodge of this order in the county was organized at Cambria, Hesperian Lodge, No. 181. It was instituted on September 28, 1870. Many prominent Odd Fellows were present, District Deputy Grand Master M. Pepperman, Past Grand L. Landeker of Chorro Lodge, and John B. Fitch, Past Grand of Healdsburg Lodge, being among them. The charter members were D. P. Crawford, Geo. S. Davis, O. S. Palmer, John H. Rader, Ed. M. Minott, C. H. Egbert and F. F. Letcher. Officers installed: N. G., C. H. Egbert; V. G., Geo. S. Davis; Sec., O. S. Palmer; Treas., J. H. Rader. Arroyo Grande Lodge, No. 278, I. O. O. F., was instituted January 12, 1878. The first officers were: N. G., J. B. Elston; V. G., G. A. Robbins; P. S., P. J. Washington; R. S., B. J. Woods; Treas., M. Hammerschlag. The last two lodges mentioned own halls and have always flourished. About 1902 the Arroyo Grande lodge built a fine two-story building of the handsome yellow sandstone quarried near there. The first Rebekah lodge in this county, Morse's Rebekah Degree, No. 25, was instituted at Cambria, June 10, 1877. The second Friendship Rebekah Degree, No. 36, was instituted at San Luis Obispo, July 12, 1877. Cayucos Lodge, No. 300, I. O. O. F., was organized about 1883.

This lodge owns its own hall. The Odd Fellows lodge at Paso Robles was organized soon after the town was started. In June, 1889, the Templeton lodge was instituted. It prospered for about ten years, and was then united with the Paso Robles lodge. Paso Robles has a Masonic lodge and a Rebekah Degree, as has also San Miguel. There are Eastern Star lodges at San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles and San Miguel.

The Knights of Pythias lodge was first introduced to San Luis Obispo when Park Lodge, No. 40, was instituted, December 21, 1876, with thirteen charter members, J. M. Wilcoxon, Chancellor Commander. Those who joined the lodge at its organization, or very soon thereafter, and have been faithful members since, are: J. M. Vincent, Ben Sinsheimer, P. F. Ready, A. C. McLeod, J. E. Lewis, who all joined in 1887; A. H. Hicox, 1878; J. F. Branch and J. B. Weaver, 1881; Otto Tullman, 1884; Finney, 1888; H. C. Fry, 1889.

The Native Sons of the Golden West have had lodges at several places, as have also their sisters, the Native Daughters of the Golden West. At Cambria the parlor was organized on November 8, 1889, with nineteen members. There are sixty-four members at present. This lodge has six thousand dollars now in its treasury and is socially a strong factor. Each year it celebrates Admission Day, September 9, with great enthusiasm. A Wild West show has been the leading feature for years now. There are lodges of this order at San Miguel and San Luis Obispo, and a strong one formerly existed at Nipomo. The Native Daughters of San Miguel and San Luis Obispo are also lodges of influence.

There are, in the county, lodges of the Woodmen of the World, Red Men, Women of Woodcraft, Royal Neighbors, Knights of Columbus, and various other orders; but space will not permit us to write of them all. We have endeavored to note those of greatest importance, and earliest in the county.

## CHAPTER XIII

### The Press, the Bench and Bar, Physicians and Others

#### THE PRESS

The first newspaper published in California was The Californian, at Monterey, August 15, 1846, by Rev. Walter Colton and Dr. Robert Semple. The latter was the printer and had come with Fremont's expedition. Colton had come into the country as chaplain of the frigate "Congress." He had been appointed alcalde of Monterey by Commodore Stockton. As there were no newspapers in this county to print public notices, the legislature passed a special act, April 27, 1857, for the benefit of this county and Santa Barbara, which was also without a paper. The act provided for the posting of notices "At the house of Jacob J. Simmler in the town of San Luis Obispo, and at the house of Felipe Gaxiola. At the house of Charles Varian in Arroyo Grande, and at the house of Joaquin Estrada in Santa Margarita."

The first newspaper published in the county was The Pioneer of San Luis Obispo. The editor and owner was Rome G. Vickars, and his first issue was January 4, 1868. The price was \$5.00 per annum, invariably in

advance. The paper was printed on paper 22x28 inches, six columns to each one of the four pages. In the first number were professional cards of James Van Ness, James White, Wm. J. Graves, Chas. Lindley, P. A. Forrester, Walter Murray, attorneys; W. W. Hays, M. D. The official directory was Pablo de la Guerra, judge of the first district; W. M. Beebee, county judge; J. A. de la Guerra, sheriff; Wm. J. Graves, district attorney; C. W. Dana, clerk and recorder; G. F. Sauer, treasurer; John Bains, assessor; George Deffner, surveyor; P. A. Forrester, superintendent of schools; J. J. Simmler, justice of the peace of San Luis Obispo and R. Rigdon of San Simeon. The Eagle Hotel of San Luis Obispo was run by S. H. Parsons.

The Pioneer was a Democratic paper and the Republicans wanted an organ; so a rival, the San Luis Obispo Tribune, entered the field, August 7, 1869, and came to stay, for it is here yet and still a staunch Republican. Here is the place to say that the authentic county history for every week and day since August 7, 1869, is to be found in the files of the Tribune kept in the public library of San Luis Obispo. Without those files of the Tribune, getting authentic history would be impossible. We say the Tribune, for it is the only paper that began with the pioneer days of the county and has continued publication up to the present day. It is doubtful if the people of the county realize the great value of those files of the paper. They should be carefully stored in an iron-proof safe; for if a fire destroys them, away go the only authentic records of the county since August 7, 1869, save those found in the county records, and the county records contain nothing outside of county business.

The Tribune began life under the ownership of H. S. Rembaugh & Co. The "company" was Walter Murray, who was also the brilliant editor. As there were so many people unable to read English, one or two columns were printed in Spanish. The paper was 28x36 inches, seven columns, four pages. One of the most interesting things in connection with the writing of this history has been the taking of some event as told by a pioneer, and then getting fiction untangled from fact by going back to the old, reliable Tribune. All sorts of things—murders, births, deaths, marriages, public and private transactions—have been unraveled by that old standby, and the truth dug up. The Pioneer, in 1869, died, but in 1870 it was resurrected as the Standard, lived a few months and was bought by the Tribune. April 20, 1872, Judge Murray published his "Valedictory," saying that long ago he had wished to "hang his harp on a willow tree" and be rid of editorial duties that interfered with other business, but had continued editor until some reliable person could be found to take his place. O. F. Thornton took Mr. Murray's place on the paper. March 6, 1883, the Tribune began a daily issue. It now publishes a semi-weekly and daily paper. J. K. Tuley, George B. Staniford, George Maxwell, Myron Angel, Warren M. John, Benjamin Brooks, have all been identified with the Tribune.

March 20, 1878, appeared the first issue of The South Coast, published by Charles L. Wood. This paper was in existence about a year. August 2, 1879, appeared a new paper calling itself The Southern California Advocate. No names appeared, but it was understood that C. H. Phillips and Geo. W. Mauk were behind the scenes. March 27, 1880, Phillips retired and W. M. Armstrong published the paper until its fifty-second number and then sold out to the Tribune. October 13, 1880, a Democratic paper, The Mirror, pub-

lished by H. H. Doyle, made its appearance. Its office was on Court street between Higuera and Monterey, where we think it later passed into the hands of The Breeze Publishing Co. In 1898, T. T. Crittenden was editor. The San Luis Obispo Breeze was a Democratic paper and a live wire for all news while it was in existence. It finally became involved with the affairs of the County Bank, and went under when that did.

The Telegram was first published in 1905 by a stock company. March 12, 1912, C. L. Day took over the paper. He has always conducted it as a purely independent paper regardless of politics. The paper is published semi-weekly and as an eight-page daily. It is brim-full of county, state, national and world news, and goes to a large number of well-satisfied subscribers. Mr. Day has a controlling interest and is editor-in-chief, ably assisted by a lively corps. The plant is the largest and best-equipped in the county.

We have written rather fully of these papers, because each has been a paper going to all quarters of the county. Those published in other towns and more of a local nature will be mentioned in writing of the respective towns. Some very able men have been connected with our county papers—Walter Murray, Myron Angel, T. T. Crittenden, Will Fischer, Warren M. John, Benjamin Brooks, C. L. Day, and others who have written under the editorship of these men.

### BENCH AND BAR

Some notable men have presided over the courts of the county, and many really brilliant lawyers have pleaded for their clients. J. M. Bonilla occupied the first judicial bench, John M. Price followed Bonilla for about a year as county judge, then W. J. Graves was elected. In March, 1853, O. M. Brown became county judge, in 1854 Romualdo Pacheco was elected, in 1857 Jose Maria Munoz took Pacheco's place and was drowned when the steamer on which he had taken passage for San Francisco was wrecked. In 1861, Joseph M. Havens was elected. Judge Beebee was elected in 1863, and again in 1867. In October, 1871, Judge Venable was elected, and again in 1875. In 1879 the new constitution was adopted, the county and district courts were abolished and each county held a superior court. In 1884 Judge Gregory was elected; his health became impaired, and by special act of the legislature Judge Gregg was appointed to serve also with Judge Gregory. In 1890 Gregg was elected superior judge, and in 1896 Judge Unangst was elected. He served continuously until 1914, when broken health compelled him to retire from the bench. For eighteen years this man presided over the superior court with unfailing fairness, a highly respected and well-liked official. It may be interesting to recall that Miss Anita Murray, the daughter of the brilliant Judge Murray, became the wife of Judge Unangst. The eldest son of this union is Edwin, who seems to have inherited his grandfather's ability to write, along with musical talent of a high order. The young gentleman is teaching music at present in a boys' school at Santa Barbara and is still in his early twenties.

In 1914 Judge Norton was elected superior judge, and his term will not expire until 1920. He is a rather young man, but ably fills the position. "Arch" Campbell was district attorney, then an able criminal lawyer. He was elected to the state senate and is now identified with a state office con-

nected with the law. Chas. A. Palmer is now serving his third term as district attorney. S. V. Wright, Paul Gregg, Phil Kaetzel, Thos. Rhodes, W. A. Van Wormer, W. K. Burnett, and Alex Webster are other well-known lawyers of the present time.

### PHYSICIANS

Some of the men who have become well-known physicians or surgeons are: W. W. Hays, the pioneer doctor of the county, who came to San Luis Obispo in 1866. He was a native of Maryland, was a surgeon in the United States army and was connected with the Smithsonian Institute. Mrs. Hays was a daughter of Rev. Dr. Park, rector of Trinity church, New York. The family was highly cultured; and two daughters, one of whom married E. B. Ballard, an English gentleman and friend of H. A. Vachell, were belles in early San Luis society. The old Hays home still stands, though sadly changed from its former beauty, on a sloping hillside just north of San Luis Obispo. Dr. Nichols of San Luis and Dr. J. H. Glass of Paso Robles were pioneer doctors. Dr. Clark and Dr. Paulding of Arroyo Grande are old-timers. For many years old Dr. Smiley practiced at Morro, and at present Dr. H. W. Jones, Dr. Paul Jackson, Dr. C. J. McGovern, Dr. W. M. Stover and Dr. Guilfoil are prominent in San Luis Obispo and are identified with the two well-equipped hospitals of the city.

### OTHER PROMINENT NAMES

In this chapter we shall also mention a few men who in one way or another have become prominent. C. W. Dana was county clerk for over twenty years. William Mallah, son of Captain Mallah, one time owner of the Huer-Huero ranch and member of the Vigilance Committee, was born on the ranch in 1864. In 1889 he went into the county clerk's office, C. W. Dana clerk, and worked with Dana six years, then was deputy under Whicher for eight years, was elected tax collector in 1906, and served as deputy for four years under County Clerk Leland. In 1910 he was elected justice of the peace for San Luis Obispo and is still serving. His wife was formerly Miss Nellie Dana, daughter of C. W. Dana. F. J. Rodrigues went into the courthouse as a clerk in 1891. In 1899 he was deputy tax collector; January, 1903, deputy county clerk; and in 1911 he was elected to that office. He is now forty-four years of age and has been employed in the courthouse for twenty-five years. Mrs. Grace Kelshaw is county treasurer. For many years her husband, John Kelshaw, was treasurer. When he died, the supervisors appointed Mrs. Kelshaw to fill the vacancy. Having been in the office for some time, she was well qualified to fill the position with satisfaction.

### County Officials

The present county officials are: T. A. Norton, superior judge; C. A. Palmer, district attorney; Frank J. Rodrigues, county clerk; D. F. Mahoney, recorder; Richard Leland, tax collector; P. J. McCaffrey, assessor; Mrs. Grace Kelshaw, treasurer; P. H. Murphy, auditor; W. S. Wight, county superintendent of schools; Charles J. Taylor, sheriff; C. W. Palmer, coroner; A. F. Parsons, county surveyor; Thomas Fogarty, public administrator. Supervisors, E. W. Black, Patrick Donovan, Peter Tognazzini, Mathias Iver-

### Paderewski's Ranch

A few years ago Ignace Paderewski, the great pianist, came to Paso Robles to rest and recuperate. At the time some fear was felt that his hands were becoming affected with muscular trouble arising from so much piano-playing. He recovered from his affliction, fell in love with the surroundings and bought several thousand acres of hill and valley land northwest of Paso Robles. Quite recently he purchased the T. M. Wear ranch of three hundred twenty acres, and will set it to nuts and fruits. He also has some fine stock, and no doubt will evolve one of the fine estates Europe set the pattern for long ago. September 16, 1916, the San Francisco Chronicle announced the most recent purchase and said the estate would be known as "Ignace Farms" and all stock branded Ignace, according to trade-mark letters issued.

### The Atascadero Colony

This colony is situated on the old Henry ranch, about four miles south of Templeton. The ranch contained 23,150 acres. Later 849.21 acres were bought, Baron von Schroeder's beach property at Morro and other parcels, the colony holdings now totaling 24,062.31 acres. E. G. Lewis, who founded the Woman's Republic, was the originator of the plan. In a recent issue of the Review, published at Atascadero, these statements are made: "The colony is situated half-way between San Francisco and Los Angeles on the main line of the Southern Pacific, and the great concrete paved highway, the El Camino Real—The King's Highway—on the line of the old trail from mission to mission, passes through it. Three thousand people have purchased town lots or acreage tracts, 10,000 acres are planted or are to be planted to orchards, seventy miles of roads and streets are or are to be constructed, twenty-one miles of water mains are laid, and two hundred homes, some very fine ones, are already built or are in course of construction."

A large department store is nearing completion, and a fine new school-house is going up at the present writing. The administration building, quite a pretentious affair, was well on the way when a new turn of affairs stopped the building of such things until the more necessary work on roads, bridges and orchards was done. A large printing plant is in operation, and the Review says: "A special daylight rotary gravure printing plant, the finest in the world, is to be built especially for the Review." This paper states that more than \$2,000,000 has been expended in the improvement of Atascadero Colony, and that the state of California has recently authorized a bond issue of \$1,750,000 for the completion of the remaining improvements.

This colony is a try-out. It started to become an old, established city in phenomenal time. People lost all sense of time, for many have told the writer—in fact, it was published at the inception of the colony three years ago—that orchards would be yielding good incomes in two years from time of planting. Let no one ever believe such marvelous stories, even of California, "the land of wonders." People from the East sufficiently able to play at farming may come right along to Atascadero or any part of the county and find lovely scenery and a climate without blizzards or extreme cold; but in the Salinas valley there will be three or four months of dry, hot weather, and it is of no use to pretend otherwise. At the same time, the heat never debilitates like the summer heat of the East, and the nights are generally



cool. Along the coast side of the county hot summer months do not occur, nor is it ever so cold as on the eastern side of the Santa Lucia range. There are no cyclones nor electrical storms. Occasionally in summer a slight play of lightning will be seen, but often years pass without the sight of lightning or the roll of thunder. Snow is so rare that most people (natives) have never seen it, save at a distance on the mountain tops. Once in many years a light, feathery fall occurs, melting almost as quickly as it touches earth.

San Luis Obispo County is an empire in itself. It felt the foot of the first white man, Cabrillo, who sailed along its shores and landed at its bays. It saw the rise and fall of two great missions; then Spanish dons held sway until the Americans came in sufficient numbers to change the old régime. The county is developing rapidly. Its great resources will soon be utilized, and even now it is the best spot on earth, for within its borders everything worth having is to be found.

## CHAPTER XIV

### Cities, Towns, and Villages

#### SAN LUIS OBISPO, THE CITY OF THE BISHOP

When the county was organized in 1850, San Luis Obispo was the only settlement in it. Around the Mission clustered a few small adobe buildings. The main road passed through it from southwest to northeast, crossing San Luis creek about half a mile below the Mission, at the end of what is now Dana street. It followed up the right bank and a trail led off to the chorro that is now Chorro street. The main road has become Monterey street, but the "bend," after passing the Mission, has never been straightened. A year or so ago the city authorities compelled property owners to move back their buildings on the lower left side going north, after passing the Mission, so that the whole street should be of uniform width. On the southwest corner of Chorro and Monterey streets stood a two-story adobe with a dance hall and restaurant in it. This was considered quite a grand building.

Farther north, and fronting on Monterey street, Captain W. G. Dana, in 1850, erected the first frame building in the county out of material brought from Chile. Captain John Wilson soon after erected a two-story frame building on the lot where the public library now stands, or in that block. The material came around the "Horn." Beebee & Pollard had an adobe store on the corner where the Sinsheimer store now is. In 1851 Captain Dana put up a large adobe building on the corner where the Carpenter building now stands, the northeast corner of Monterey and Court streets. The roof was of sheet iron, the walls adobe. The timber was drawn by oxen from Cambria, and the flooring and doors came from the Atlantic coast. This was known as Casa Grande, was the first hotel in town, and the scene of many a festivity. In this building a room or so was used for a courthouse after the room in the old Mission was abandoned, and it was, we believe, the courtroom up to the time of building the present courthouse, in 1872.

Big bands of Sonorans used to pass through the town on their way to

San Luis Obispo was alcalde in 1852. Some-



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, 1877



times two hundred fifty or three hundred Sonorans would be in one band, the men on foot, the women and little ones on burros or horses. The men were called Calzones blancos (white breeches) and each carried a "machete," or long knife. This alcalde had his office in the adobe on the corner near the Mission. Usually the Sonorans stopped at the Mission to make the sign of the cross or to ask a blessing from the Virgin. Luna, in 1852, exacted a fee of fifty cents from each one of a large band as "toll" for passing through the town. Some in the rear, learning of his plan, tried to go another way through the town, but Luna sent his constables to compel them to pass the Mission and pay the toll. One way to get graft, which is one of the oldest things under the sun. This Luna was the one who killed his partner, in the story of crimes, and later fled to New Mexico when the Vigilance Committee began to clean things up.

The question came up, was San Luis Obispo a pueblo and entitled to the pueblo lands? The claim was presented in 1853 to the land commission and rejected by them in 1854. A pueblo had the right to incorporate, elect officers and use in common four leagues, about twelve square miles. San Luis was a pueblo, but the rights of one were rejected on the grounds of insufficient proof. In 1867 the town acquired a right to six hundred forty acres by act of Congress. In 1871 the town authorities received from the United States Land Office a certificate of purchase to the town site containing 552.65 acres. This was a great relief to all hands.

In 1859 the town was organized under the laws of the state, with Charles H. Johnson president of the board of trustees and Thomas H. Bouton clerk. The board passed ordinances and tried to enforce them. Dr. W. W. Hays and C. W. Dana succeeded Johnson and Bouton. In 1868 the first bridge across San Luis creek was built. A. Blockman & Co. put up the first brick store. In 1874, by act of legislature, the town issued bonds for \$10,000, interest eight per cent., payable in fifteen years. The bonds sold at ninety per cent., and the proceeds were used for repairing roads and streets and building bridges. In 1876 the city was incorporated, the city officials being: S. A. McDougall, mayor; councilmen, Rackliffe, Reed, Barger, Bayer and Harris; clerk, Julius Krebs. The city limits were extended to their present confines. Bridges existed at Mill, Court, Morro, Chorro, Nipomo and Broad streets in 1876. Gas and water works had been installed and a fire company organized. March 20, 1876, the city was bonded for \$15,000, payable in twenty years, eight per cent. interest, proceeds to pay the floating debt and erect town buildings; \$8,400 worth were sold at ninety-three per cent. and the debt liquidated. The first city marshal was A. C. McLeod. This man became prominent, was three times elected sheriff, twice deputy sheriff, and was mayor in 1894 when the Southern Pacific Railway entered the city limits and "one big time" celebrated the event.

In 1872, Dr. Hays, C. W. Dana and M. A. Benrino obtained a franchise for water works; the next year A. M. Loomis and Alfred Walker bought the franchise and went to work. A small reservoir was built on Murray hill, about a mile and a half north of the town, and the water was brought in a flume from the upper San Luis creek. Cost, about \$5,000. In 1874 the San Luis Obispo Water Co. was formed, capital stock \$60,000. The men behind this were P. W. Murphy, A. M. Loomis, E. W. Steele, C. H. Phillips and Judge Venable. Sheet-iron pipes were laid in the streets and water carried through them in

November, 1874. In 1876 a large reservoir was built up the cañon, capacity 1,250,000 gallons. In 1883 the sheet-iron pipe was replaced with cast-iron pipe seven inches in diameter, and seventeen fire-plugs were installed. Later another reservoir was built, and a dam three hundred feet long, fifty feet wide, and one hundred fifty feet at the base, was placed across a little cañon and fed by a small trout stream. This held 20,000,000 gallons, and later was the place where the tramps bathed and the boys and dogs went swimming. It was there, in 1906, that a boy of fifteen was drowned one Sunday morning while taking a ride on a raft. In 1910 a new reservoir was built holding 9,000,000 gallons. It is roofed and the public health is a little better protected. Mr. Burch, Ed. Branch and an assistant look after the water works at present. There is still much to be done before the city will have an adequate supply of pure water for all purposes; but the matter is of such vital importance that it will soon be attended to, for San Luis Obispo has moved forward in long strides during the last few years. St. Luis the Bishop is stirring in his sleep and will soon be wide awake.

The centennial year, 1876, marked an epoch in the history of the whole county. Here are a few items culled from the Tribune of December 30, 1876: The year had fulfilled its early promise by an abundant harvest. Cambria, Cayucos and Arroyo Grande showed improvement. The buildings noted in San Luis Obispo were L. Lasar's store of brick with iron front, two stories, at the foot of Monterey street; Quintana's store, next to Goldtree's block; the Convent school; a balcony to the Cosmopolitan Hotel, now the St. James; and the Court schoolhouse. The Pacific Coast Railway, and the "commodious" depot, still used, were also completed, and many private homes. A new road was opened over Cuesta pass, "so gigantic an undertaking that the county refused to build it until compelled to by an act of the legislature"; and many new roads and bridges had been built throughout the county—one over Paso Robles creek that would ensure safe passage for the stage in winter time.

In 1868 there were exactly six hundred people living within the one square mile of the town site. By 1880 the census showed 2,500 within the town limits. In 1883 the city claimed 3,000 population. The first county vote, all at San Luis Obispo, polled forty-eight.

December 13, 1871, the Bank of San Luis Obispo, with H. M. Warden president and C. H. Phillips cashier, opened for business, the first bank in the county. The bank was in rooms on the west side of Monterey street between Morro and Chorro streets, in the building where the California Clothing Store now is. In 1881 the bank put up a handsome two-story building on the northeast corner of Monterey and Court streets. This bank is fully written up in the sketch of C. H. Phillips in this book.

The city hall was begun in October, 1879. Below, the fire apparatus is stored, a fine chemical wagon, engines, hook-and-ladder truck, etc.; and above are the city offices. The city jail was also in the building until 1916, when it became utterly unfit and a new jail was built in the rear at a cost of \$2,000. It is of concrete, and was put up by the E. Cole Co.

The city now has a population of 6,500. There are many beautiful homes, and a good high school; but the grammar schools are in need of new buildings and more of them. The Mitchell block was purchased a few years ago for school grounds, and early this year a hard fight was put up for bonds for new school buildings. The old hue and cry of "taxes" was heard, and the

bonds lost out. The children are crowded into two ancient buildings; one, Court school, an old wooden fire-trap of two stories, was built in the fall of 1876.

The present government (1916) is by Freeholders' Charter. The board of commissioners is composed of W. M. Stover, mayor; Dick Saunders, finance and revenue; H. A. Gowman, public health and safety; L. F. Sinsheimer, public works; George H. Andrews, supplies; Mrs. Callie M. John, city clerk. The total assessed value is \$3,079,060.

The business houses have grown from a few old adobes to a city of finely constructed business blocks. The Union National Bank building, the Commercial Bank building, the Elks building, Masonic Temple, Wade building, Warden blocks and Andrews Hotel are especially fine. To enumerate further would take too much space; suffice it to say, the city is well supplied with good stores and shops of every kind. The business men are a fine class of up-to-date, progressive men. There are the Andrews, St. James, Golden State and Commercial hotels; also a Swiss hotel called the Grütli. There are many good rooming houses and private boarding houses.

There are five fine garages in San Luis Obispo, each doing a good business, which speaks for the automobiles of the community. A horse and buggy will soon be a novelty on the streets, and it is already unsafe to try to drive a "rig" through town or along country roads. The automobiles claim all the rights to run down horses or foot passengers, and the supervisors have decided to put a "speed cop" on the force to prevent the wholesale killing that goes on between this city and Pismo on the state highway.

The streets are wide and well laid out. Morro street is paved, as are Monterey and Higuera, and during the last year an immense amount of splendid street work has been completed. A big steam roller has aided much in the street work. Fine concrete bridges now replace the old wooden ones in the town. San Luis creek has been walled along the sides where it runs through the business section of the city. The city owns a good sewer system and a sewer farm, where the waste is taken care of. A force of men keep the streets well swept and very clean.

The Midlands Counties Electric Co. furnishes electricity for lighting the city, and a 60,000-volt line carries power through the county. This company and the Santa Maria Gas Co. both furnish natural gas for lighting and heating purposes, the gas coming from the Santa Maria oil fields in iron pipe lines.

There are two hospitals, Stover's Sanitarium and the Pacific Hospital, owned by Miss Ester Biaggini. Dr. H. W. Jones is the head surgeon of this hospital, assisted by Dr. Paul Jackson and Dr. C. H. McGovern, a very able corps indeed. Stover's Sanitarium is in charge of Dr. Stover and Dr. Guilfoil, and is the first institution of the kind put up in the city. The medical staff of the city is a very able one, and people come from a distance to these hospitals for treatment.

On a lot south of the Mission stands the public library, built by Carnegie in 1904. There are 11,812 volumes; with the documents, there are over 13,000. The building is of brick with stone facings, a very fine building with high cement basement rooms. The librarian is Mrs. E. L. Kellogg; Mrs. E. E. Butt is assistant librarian. Ray McIntyre is caretaker. The book

trustees consists of W. E. Shipsey, president; A. H. Mabley, Mrs. R. F. Wickenden, Mrs. H. J. Woehl and Mrs. Callie M. John.

The city lacks a park. All it has to call one is a very small triangle near the Southern Pacific depot which the Civic Club of ladies has so far tried to care for. It is called "El Triangulo," to be Spanish, and interesting to tourists. This little park is now to be greatly improved by the Civic Club.

The police force numbers six, and keeps order day and night.

Several big fires have destroyed much property. The big Ramona Hotel, built about 1889, and a fine hotel for the time, was burned down in 1905. April 25, 1885, on Sunday, a devastating fire burned the Andrews Hotel that occupied the corner where later the Andrews Bank was built, southwest corner of Monterey and Osos streets. The hotel fronted one hundred forty feet on Monterey street. The buildings across Monterey street were badly damaged, and the livery stable on the opposite corner, belonging to A. C. McLeod and Payne, was burned. The Grütli Hotel was burned out several times. Some years ago the entire block bounded by Broad, Nipomo, Higuera and Marsh streets was burned, save the old Beebee mansion and one house facing on Marsh street. Fire also swept out all the old wooden and adobe buildings in the block between Monterey, Higuera, Chorro and Morro streets, all but the old Cosmopolitan, now the St. James, and Sinsheimer's store. The Warden, Jr., building, Wade building and Steinhart building are now in that block. Fire always cleans out the old wooden buildings, and this town was no exception.

### Churches

Churches of many denominations are here. The Presbyterian, Methodist and Episcopal churches are written of elsewhere, as they were the pioneer churches of the county. A large Baptist Church, Lutheran Church and Christian Church are here, each with a good congregation. A Methodist Church South once existed. J. P. Andrews gave the organ and the bell to that church, and supported it liberally; but the times changed and the property was sold to the Congregational people. For many years that was a thriving church, but about seven years ago it began to die out and is now no more. The lot with the church building adjoins the new Federal Building site on Marsh street, and the lot is now quite valuable, for it is wide and deep, as lots go.

### New Federal Building

On the southeast corner of Morro and Marsh streets a fine new Federal Building is to be at once constructed. An appropriation of \$7,500 was made for the lot and this corner was selected for the site. When it came to buying, complications arose. To get the corner and enough more room for the building it was necessary to buy out a livery stable and two houses and lots. Real estate advanced so fast on that corner that to get it \$12,600 had to be in sight. This left \$5,100 to be raised by subscription. W. D. Adriance, A. F. Fitzgerald and John Gibson were a committee to solicit. To date, November 14, 1916, \$3,485 has been subscribed. The property has been deeded to the proper authority and the ground is being cleared. One house has been sold off for \$1,200. On Morro street a lot  $20\frac{1}{2} \times 119$  feet will be left to sell, and when sold the proceeds will go back pro rata to the men who have made up the deficit. The building will be two stories high, and will front

one hundred forty-five feet on Morro street and one hundred nineteen feet on Marsh street. In it will be the post office and all federal offices. The director of the weather bureau, the collector of the port, and other officials will have offices there. The sum set aside for the building is \$75,000. Diagonally across the street stands the beautiful Elks building, and across Morro street is the fine stone Presbyterian Church. The building is as centrally located as possible, and will be of great public service.

### Banks

Two large banks, each beautifully housed, take care of the people's money. The Commercial Bank was organized in March, 1888. Its first location was on Monterey street, near Latimer's drug store. It moved to its present location, at the southeast corner of Chorro and Higuera streets, in 1899. A few years ago the building was remodeled, and it is now one of the handsomest in town. In May, 1913, it absorbed the Andrews Bank. It has a capital stock of \$300,000; its deposits, August 31, 1916, were \$3,326,535. The Tribune, a few days since, reported that this bank had loaned \$150,000 to a Salinas firm. The present officers are J. W. Barneberg, president; E. W. Clark, vice-president; R. R. Muscio, vice-president; H. L. Kemper, cashier; Francis H. Throop and L. J. Defosset, assistant cashiers. The board of directors are J. W. Barneberg, L. J. Beckett, E. Biaggini, E. W. Clark, S. A. Dana, H. L. Kemper, R. R. Muscio, A. Muscio and A. Tognazzini. The Union National Bank is on the northeast corner of Higuera and Garden streets, in a fine cement building with marble staircase, and this building, erected in 1906, is one of the fine new buildings of which so many have been erected during the last decade. This bank opened for business August 23, 1905, in temporary quarters at 1133 Chorro street, in the Erickson building; capital stock, \$100,000; W. T. Summers, president; J. W. Smith, vice-president; W. D. Dibblee, cashier. The board of directors were Mark Elberg, Lawrence Harris, Geo. J. Walters, C. A. Edwards, Wm. Sandercock, John R. Williams, W. T. Summers, J. W. Smith and T. W. Dibblee. The present officers are: President, Wm. Sandercock; vice-presidents, T. W. Dibblee and W. T. Summers; cashier, Henry Dawe; assistant cashier, Allan L. Bickell; board of directors, Wm. Sandercock, A. T. Souza, Henry Dawe, T. W. Dibblee, John P. Williams, Mark Elberg, Lawrence Harris, C. A. Edwards and W. T. Summers.

### San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce

A chamber of commerce has long existed in San Luis Obispo. For years a room has been rented and an "exhibit" kept on display. Sometimes the exhibit might have been more attractive in appearance; but through it, and the county fairs once held in the pavilion—which, with races at the old race track, drew crowds for a week at a time—and later through the Upper Salinas Valley fairs held at Paso Robles, the outsider has gradually learned about our mammoth vegetables, fine fruits, splendid dairies, grains, minerals and other products. In 1901 the writer described the sweet-pea festivals held at Arroyo Grande, in an article in *Sunset*, and from letters received knows a good many heard about the seed farms there. When the automobile came and people by thousands passed through our county, they were always much impressed by the climate and beautiful scenery, but they mostly got away before we could get around and induce them to stay in God's country.



They got as far as Los Angeles; then some "live wire" of a real estate man, generally one who had been caught for a "sucker" himself, sold them an orange or lemon grove. Often and again they repented buying it; but San Luis Obispo was so comfortable, anyway, and had so good a living without chasing tourists for it, that we let "Sunny Southern California" get so well known that now, down there, all one has to do is to say "San Luis Obispo" and he is besieged with inquiries which, if he is "Truthful James," he answers as he should.

Leigh H. Irvine was finally engaged to lead our county out of the wilderness, and he got us away out of the woods. He wrote and sent broadcast a fine booklet, was in charge of the chamber of commerce when the Exposition was being put into shape, and had something to do with the exhibits sent up to it when it finally opened; but there were so many "commissioners" from the county, only five for a year before it opened and for the first six months or more thereafter, that Mr. Irvine's efforts were submerged by the "commission." This commission cost the county a pile of money, and a few lawsuits with judgment in favor of the very determined lady commissioner, but it is doubtful if the returns to the county in any measure whatever justified the expense to the taxpayers. This county's exhibit at the P. P. I. Exposition was a mighty expensive and a very poor piece of advertising. The men of San Luis Obispo were forever giving money to the chamber of commerce and forever looking for the results of their giving, but generally they looked in vain. Not always, of course; but without doubt thousands of dollars have been spent trying to keep alive a chamber that helped few other than the man drawing the salary. Finally, in 1913, Mr. Du Vul was engaged as secretary of the chamber. He did good work for the year he was in charge. In 1914, Leigh H. Irvine came and, being a man of ideas and of literary ability as well, wrote much for publication and did well, considering conditions; for during his stay here the Exposition was taking all the money and all the interest of the people. In April, 1916, Charles H. Roberts succeeded Mr. Irvine, and at once the chamber began to take on new life. In April it opened a publicity campaign for the \$15,000,000 bond issue for the state highway, and never ceased until the bonds were voted. The first Chautauqua held in the city was enthusiastically worked up by the chamber, and Mr. Roberts was secretary of the local committee which secured a very delightful week of high-class entertainment for the people.

The next important move was in securing the presence of Max Thelan of the railroad commission at a conference held on street lighting, which resulted in plans and specifications for a system of street lighting by electroliners and other up-to-date means. These plans and specifications are now in the hands of the commission on street lighting. In July the horticultural commissioner, Carl Nichols, was invited to use the chamber of commerce rooms as his headquarters, and eventually a strong movement for a county farm bureau was launched. Five hundred farmers signed up; but when it came to getting \$2,000 voted by the supervisors to help defray expenses, the bureau was lost, or at least not helped on its way. A farm bureau is the one great thing the county needs to develop and safeguard the agricultural, dairying and stock-raising interests, and it will eventually have to come; but the county has not yet recovered from its P. P. I. E. commission's expenses, which were supposedly spent to help out those same interests.

In August the campaign for re-organizing the chamber was started and actively pursued, until at the present writing two hundred members have been pledged to pay \$25 per year for three years. This gives a sure amount of funds for a working basis. The methods used by other successful enterprises and chambers of commerce have been adopted, and things are moving now where once they only wobbled. A get-together luncheon is held monthly, where very often some noted man speaks along lines pertaining to the work of the chamber. All business men are requested to attend these midday meetings and to place before the members anything they think needs the attention of the chamber. When, early in the fall, a gigantic strike was threatened, the chamber of commerce petitioned the California Commission by telephone, urging that the differences be arbitrated and the strike be thus avoided. This was commented upon by many leading papers throughout the country, and about the same time Secretary Roberts wrote an article for the San Francisco Examiner that appeared in various other publications, setting forth the advantages of the county. In November the secretary contributed to the Saturday Evening Post, the Los Angeles Times, and other Southern California papers, articles on good roads in which he had the opportunity to speak of the splendid road work of the county. Believing that conventions do much to advertise a town, the chamber of commerce lent its efforts towards securing the Letter Carriers' Convention, held here in September, 1916. On November 19, good-roads meetings were held all over the county, and the chamber secured automobiles and speakers for the meetings. Such is a brief outline of the work carried on since last April. W. D. Egilbert, secretary of the California Development Company, and C. E. Stern of the State Highway Commission, have recently written the chamber expressing approval of the work as carried on by it. The chamber aims to be an institution representative of the whole community, recognizing those fundamental truths that it must be and is non-sectarian, non-partisan, and non-sectional, that it must serve the city as a whole and accomplish the greatest good for the greatest number, and that it must have men, money, and interest—all of which it seems to have gotten and to be using for the development, not only of the city of San Luis Obispo, but of the entire county. The present board of directors includes Dr. W. M. Stover, president; R. W. Putnam, first vice-president; G. J. Walters, second vice-president; Fred Kluer, W. E. Lawrence, J. G. Driscoll, H. L. Kemper, P. A. H. Arata, F. D. Crossett, Rev. J. D. Habbick, Dr. H. B. Kirtland, J. A. Renetsky, C. H. Kamm, W. M. Sandercock and J. D. Gilliland.

#### **The Woman's Civic Club of San Luis Obispo**

The Woman's Civic Club of San Luis Obispo was organized in January, 1909, federated March, 1909, and incorporated under the laws of the State of California, November 2, 1915. In the articles of incorporation it is stated:

"That the purposes for which said Corporation is formed are to provide entertainment and civic education and training for its members, to foster and cultivate the interest of women in civic affairs, and to promote the general culture, welfare and education and comfort of the inhabitants of the community; also to acquire by gift, purchase or otherwise, property, both real and personal, required for the effective carrying out of the above-named

purposes, and to hold, mortgage, sell and otherwise legally convey, encumber or otherwise dispose of such property as required.

"That the place where the principal business of said Corporation is to be transacted is San Luis Obispo, County of San Luis Obispo, State of California.

"That the term for which said Corporation is to exist is fifty (50) years from and after the date of its incorporation."

The first board of directors under the articles of incorporation were Eliza Miller, Anna Shurragar, Mary E. Ridle, Queenie Warden, Marguerite Johnson. From its beginning the club has aided civic movements and performed many good deeds. The first thing it did for the improvement of the town was to take in charge the unsightly little triangle bounded by Santa Barbara avenue, Osos and Church streets, near the Southern Pacific station. Mrs. Ida G. Stowe owned considerable property in that locality. When she laid it out in town lots this little three-cornered piece was donated by her to the town for a plaza. Someone set out the palms that have since grown to such good size, and the pepper trees were set at the same time; but no systematic care was given the plot and it degenerated into a weed patch, where tramps camped and loose stock used the pepper trees for shade. Very soon after the Civic Club was organized, it assumed care of the place, calling it *El Triangulo*, Spanish for triangle. They put in walks and seats, planted geraniums and roses, had grass sown and spent considerable money upon it. The city for a time paid a caretaker part salary; but at present it is only seven dollars per month, so of course the park got to looking seedy.

The club is now determined to put the place in good shape and hopes to keep it so. New seats, a drinking fountain and better care are to be at once attended to. As it has been, under the care of the club, it has furnished a pleasant resting place for weary men, and on sunny days its seats are usually all occupied. A place of sufficient size and equipment to be a really worth-while municipal park has been the one continuous aim of the club, and they are still working for it. They aim also to purchase or build a Chamber of Commerce Building and Woman's Civic Club House, to augment the city water supply and to maintain a beautiful plaza opposite the Mission.

The past presidents of the club are Mrs. Ella Ridle, Mrs. C. E. Ferrel, Mrs. Jennie W. Johnson, Mrs. Eliza Miller, Mrs. Queenie Warden. Mrs. Warden is serving her second term as president, and is a woman of great energy and executive ability, able and willing to spend generously both time and money to further the attainment of the club's aims. Under her able leadership the Civic Club has rapidly advanced along all lines. It now has one hundred and two life members, each of whom pays one dollar per month for three years. From the year-book we quote the following:

"The object of this Club shall be to provide entertainment and civic education and training for its members, to foster and to cultivate the interests of women in civic affairs, and to promote the general culture, welfare and education and comfort of the inhabitants of the community.

"Our Motto: 'But screw your courage to the sticking place, and we'll not fail.'—Shakespeare.

"Club Flower: Marguerite.

"Club Colors: Gold, White and Green.

"Branches of Work: Music. History and Landmarks. Parliamentary study. Literature. Philanthropy. Civics. Household Economics.

"Officers: President, Mrs. H. M. Warden, Sr.; First Vice-President, Mrs. Eliza Miller; Second Vice-President, Mrs. Mary Ella Ridle; Secretary, Mrs. Josephine Pratt Hughston; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Josephine Pratt Hughston; Treasurer, Mrs. Alida McIntyre.

"Board of Directors: Mrs. Eliza D. Miller, Mrs. Jennie W. Johnson, Mrs. Paul M. Gregg, Mrs. R. R. Muscio, Mrs. Queenie Warden Norton."

Thus far the club has held its meetings in the basement of the Carnegie Library. The room, while comfortable enough for business purposes, admits of no social life, and the sooner the club can own a proper building the sooner will it become a large factor in the civic and social life of the community. Since Mrs. Warden has been president she has freely offered the use of Warden Court in the Warden block for social meetings. During 1915-16 the club gave a number of excellent entertainments; a musicale with Mr. Pratt, lyric tenor, as the leading attraction, a Shakespearian concert and a comic opera, "Oscar's Awful Uncle," were put on at Elmo theater. Under the department of philanthropy sixty dollars has been given to the Belgian relief fund and five dollars towards lifting the mortgage on the Longfellow birthplace. The treasurer's report at the close of the year shows life memberships payable, \$3,672; receipts, \$1,514.47; disbursements, \$863.23.

### Climate

The climate of San Luis Obispo is beyond compare. The writer has lived in many parts of the state, some famed for climate, and nowhere are there such beautiful sunny days in winter as here at the foot of the Santa Lucia mountains, ten miles from the balmy blue Pacific. Bishop's Peak and San Luis Mountain guard the town northwest; at her back rises the Santa Lucia range; opening south and west are wide valleys; over all bends a sky of deepest azure, flecked with softly sailing, fleecy little clouds. Sometimes a fog rolls in, but it comes from the sea and its salty tang adds a zest to living. Sometimes the west wind romps in and bends low the heads of the tall eucalyptus trees, or a north wind comes over the range, bringing pure air from the mountains. The flowers, and palms, and pepper trees lend beauty to the landscape; while blossoms of orange and lemon send out a fragrance sweet as dreams of heaven.

### PASO ROBLES

The city of Paso Robles came into existence as a city when the election for incorporation was carried, February 25, 1889. A city government was at once organized, the board of trustees being D. W. James (president), Dr. J. H. Glass, W. E. Grant, John M. Van Wormer, F. B. Jack (treasurer). W. R. Stokes was appointed city attorney. A little later the name of George R. Adams appears as a trustee also. The nucleus of the present beautiful little city of 2,000 population was the old wooden hotel, bath-house, and group of cottages, not forgetting "Patsy Dunn's store," wherein mail, express and telegrams were handled, as well as a general supply of groceries, dry goods, and shoes; nor was it impossible to get a "drink" in this very accommodating establishment. The old building is still standing at the back of the present magnificent Hotel de Paso Robles. In a

where Sulphur Springs. Confirmation is made of the Blackburn brothers and D. W. James, is told the story of the purchase of the Rancho Paso Robles, 25,000 acres of the San Miguel Mission lands, and the wonderful group of sulphur springs. In these springs the padres and the Indians bathed and found healing before the "Gringo" came. Also, it is vouched for in an old record that the wild animals, especially the bears, bathed in the waters and the warm mud. The Indians had rudely walled the main spring with logs. A big tree grew by the spring, and a stout branch grew out low over it. One old grizzly was in the habit of coming to the spring on moonlight nights. Grasping the branch with his fore paws, he would swing and souse himself up and down in the warm water and mud for an hour or more at a time.

When D. W. James, as previously related, became the owner of that portion of the ranch, and the spring, he erected a hotel, cottages and bath-house and opened a resort to which people gladly came from all directions, even when getting here entailed a stage ride from Gilroy, Salinas or Soledad. Hundreds of people came by rail and stage or drove from San Francisco or Los Angeles in their own conveyances. Some few, as Banker Ralston of San Francisco, were allowed to put up private cottages, but the general public could not buy land here until after the Southern Pacific Railroad came, in the fall of 1886. Then Blackburn Bros. and James had a town site surveyed. The great auctioneer, Ferguson, was engaged, as also a brass band; and in October or November of 1886 a land sale took place. (Right here we wish to say that getting data for this history of Paso Robles has been very difficult, as no files of the *Leader*, the first paper established in the town and still being issued, are available. We have set on foot a plan to get the files of the *Leader* placed in the public library, which, if carried out, will be of great value, not only to the historian, but also to the general public.)

People flocked to the new town and many ranches were also sold. H. G. Wright, editor and owner of the *Santa Clara Journal*, sold out and came to the new town. He started the *Paso Robles Leader*, issuing his first paper November 15, 1886. Every Wednesday since the *Leader* has greeted the people. When the Wylie local option law was tried out by the people here, Mr. Wright stood with the "drys." The election was held August 29, 1911, and carried. Paso Robles was the first town to take advantage of the Wylie act. It has been difficult to enforce the law, but for five years the saloons have been closed and the majority of the business men agree that the law not only has greatly benefited the people who used to frequent the saloons, but also has increased the volume of business in the banks and stores.

The first man to open a store in Paso Robles, exclusive of the Honorable Patsy, whose Irish wit is still handed down to regale visitors, was George F. Bell. He built a little room on Pine, between Twelfth and Thirteenth streets. Very soon he enlarged this, and later still he conducted business in a building facing the park, between Pine and Park streets. Nathan Elliot erected a two-story brick building on the corner of Thirteenth and Pine. A company called the Farmers' Union opened business in it on a large scale, but eventually went under. Pfister, Ladd & Co. bought out the hardware department; Young bought out the grocery department; and Bell, the dry goods; later Bell bought out all the others. Today the George F. Bell Co. has the entire lower floor and does a tremendous business. They sell everything from a pin to an automobile. Mr. Bell says he started business in Paso

Robles, November 16, 1886, with a capital of \$5,000. Now he is a wealthy man, but one much liked and trusted in the community where he has made his money. As he gained money for himself he lent a helping hand to hundreds of farmers struggling with a mortgage. He never refused credit to an honest man; but carried accounts, loaned money, and so helped those who showed themselves honest and willing to help themselves. In the dry years of 1888-89, Claus Spreckels sent carloads of hay to Paso Robles and placed Mr. Bell in charge of its distribution; Spreckels also empowered Mr. Bell to furnish needed food to those in want, and bore the expense himself so far as we have ever been able to learn. It meant \$25,000 to ease the suffering in this end of the county; and the notes the self-respecting people gave in payment were never taken up. The beauty of this act was shown in first allowing the people to give their notes, and so avoiding the sting of charity, when they were burdened with so many other ills, and later announcing that the notes were canceled.

Another pioneer was Will Lewis, whose little stock of tobacco, cigars and fruit came down on the first train that brought freight to Paso Robles. Later he went into the implement business, and, in 1911, erected a fine building on the corner of Pine and Thirteenth streets. His brother Dan joined in the business, and they have a big stock of machinery which is sold off in satisfactory lots. We also noted that they sold "Fords" faster than they could get them in.

W. C. Henderson had the first blacksmith shop. He bought out the old stage stand where the stage horses were shod. This building stood on the southeast corner of Pine and Thirteenth streets. About 1904, he built the Pioneer Garage on the same lot, and in 1912 built the fine garage on the southeast corner of Spring and Thirteenth streets, where he still conducts business. P. Lundbeck was also one of the pioneer blacksmiths of the town. Tom Hood had the first harness shop on the corner of Pine and Twelfth streets. Mr. Booth had the first drug store, the "Eagle Pharmacy" starting business where it still is conducted at the corner of Spring and Twelfth. W. C. Bennett was also a pioneer druggist.

Dr. J. H. Glass was the first physician to locate in the new town. He had his house and office in a little four-room cottage on Spring street in the summer of 1887. He was a splendid doctor. His practice grew rapidly and he prospered accordingly. For many years Dr. Glass was the leading physician of the northern section of the county. He never refused to go any distance in any sort of weather. He saved many lives in those days; and though in the end trouble and misfortune broke this man, who in the beginning promised to become so much, the writer who saw him pull from "the jaws of death" the life of a beautiful little girl and shed tears when he said to the mother, "Your child will live," wishes in the history of Paso Robles to pay tribute to the memory of its pioneer physician, Dr. J. H. Glass.

Among the doctors practicing their profession in the community are Dr. W. O. Dresser, Dr. Wilmer, and Dr. Soby.

Alex Webster and Charles Putnam have represented the bar in Paso Robles for many years.

E. M. Bennett was for four years in charge of the express office in Patsy Dunn's store before the railroad came. He has always been identified with the town's interests and has handled a great deal of real estate.

It is impossible to give space to all the pioneer business men of Paso Robles. We have tried to write of a few who still do business in the town, but no doubt there are others whose names we have failed to notice. The town now has a fine array of well-kept stores and shops of every sort, presided over by courteous owners and assistants.

The Sperry Milling Co. has a large mill at Paso Robles, and the surrounding country is devoted largely to raising grains. The acreage set out to mixed fruits and nuts is said to be about 4,665, of which 1,000 acres are in bearing almond trees, while 1,500 acres are being set out this winter (1916), mainly to almonds.

In 1899 the Hotel de Paso Robles was begun. It was two years in building. The Western Realty Co. built and owns the hotel. Later the architect, Weeks, was engaged to plan the bath house. He was sent to Europe for a year to study the finest bath houses of the famous spas there, and this wonderfully beautiful and splendidly equipped bath house is the result. Previous to building the present bath house a large wooden structure was built across the street which later burned down. The grounds of the hotel are beautifully laid out and well kept. C. A. Babb is the present manager.

### Churches

The Methodist Church was the first church built in Paso Robles. There are now other churches of the following denominations: Congregational, Baptist, Christian, Catholic, and Episcopal; and a new building where a sect calling themselves the "Church of God" worship.

### Banks

The Citizens Bank of Paso Robles was organized and opened for business June 1, 1892; Adolph Horstman was cashier, and Lyman Brewer, assistant cashier. A few years later the business was in bad shape, but the bank was reorganized, every dollar of indebtedness paid and the bank placed on a firm, safe basis. The present board of directors is composed of W. C. Bennett, Alex Webster, M. Shimmin, W. O. Dresser, D. S. Lewis, Paul Pfister and A. Pfister.

The First National Bank of Paso Robles took over the business of the old Paso Robles Bank, reorganized the management and in October, 1910, began doing business. The present board of directors includes George F. Bell, W. S. Lewis and R. C. Heaton.

### Upper Salinas Valley Fair

The Upper Salinas Valley Fair is held at Paso Robles about every two years, and is a revelation of the resources of the section that certainly promises much for the future. The one held in October, 1816, was very good. Among the unique exhibits was a large American flag made of almonds on a wooden background. The whole was designed and executed by Miss Bernice Exline. She dyed the nuts for the red stripes and blue field. The stars and white stripes were of bleached almonds. She designed the wooden background so that the flag seemed floating in the breeze. The almond growers, through the association, presented Miss Exline with a beautifully engraved silver cup.

Paso Robles was the first town in the county to secure a Chautauqua, and has held at least four successful ones.

A beautiful park lends enchantment to the place. In its center stands the fine \$10,000 Carnegie Library, presided over by the efficient librarian, Mrs. Satira A. Gano. The shelves hold 2,500 volumes and more are constantly being added. The streets of the city are well-kept and shaded by rows of fine trees. It is well lighted by electricity, has a good water supply pumped from wells across the river and carried in an iron pipe across the fine iron bridge that here spans the Salinas river. The new \$40,000 grammar school has been mentioned in the chapter on schools. Three newspapers are published in the town, The Leader, Paso Robles Record (started in 1907, into which the Moon and Independent were merged, owned by a company), and the Paso Robles Press, owned and edited by Mrs. Dorothy Lawrence. This paper was started July 11, 1915.

In April, 1905, the fine municipal bath house was opened, the citizens first boring for water and getting a great flow of hot sulphur water. There seems to be an underground lake of the water, for R. C. Heaton has an artesian well of hot sulphur water. He is a pioneer business man dealing in real estate and furniture, has been very successful and is still doing business.

A fine new bath house at the mud springs was built three years ago. The business blocks of the city are mainly of brick and concrete. Everywhere things show prosperity and up-to-date methods. Paso Robles, the little city built at the Pass of the Oaks, now just thirty years old, is one of the prettiest, busiest towns in the state. Long may she flourish, amid her almond-crowned hills and bubbling hot sulphur springs.

### TEMPLETON

Templeton came into existence along with the Southern Pacific in the fall of 1886. The West Coast Land Co., with C. H. Phillips, manager, bought the Blackburn (Paso Robles) ranch, or most of it, laid out the town site, surveyed the rest into small ranches; and things began moving. A. J. Hudson, who owned a fine ranch in the Oakdale district, became a real estate agent and for about a month a hotel man, running the first Templeton hotel that was under a roof. The first one was conducted under the great oak that stood just west of the big building the Land Company erected in the early part of 1887 and which burned down in the fall of 1897. This hotel was on the corner of Main and Fourth streets, facing east, a two-story building. It had a number of different managers, but Cook was in charge during the "boom" of 1887 and cared for the crowd of people seeking real estate or health; for a number of Easterners were so charmed with the climate and lovely scenery that they just went into winter quarters and stayed. Among them were a delightful old gentleman, Rev. York from New York, and his charming daughter.

There were a few men hovering around from the time the first stakes were driven down on the right of way; but the first man to arrive and stay through all the vicissitudes of a "boom" and a "dead town," and be present at the awakening to a more healthful career, was Albert Crum, who still stays with Templeton. Early in October, 1886, the first construction trains reached the town site, and the "boom" was on and in full swing. Mr. Crum was on



hand, and on October 16, 1886, bought a lot on the southeast corner of Main and Sixth streets, and erected a two-story building. The lower floor was rented to Jacobowitz & Golliber for a store, and the upper story was used for a hall until July, 1888, when Mr. Crum married Miss Eunice Wright and converted the upper story into living rooms for his family. Jacobowitz & Golliber got all the goods they could from the wholesale man, sold them, pocketed the money and "failed." They then went to Nipomo and "Central City," now Santa Maria, and failed some more. Mrs. Wengren put in a stock of goods in this store building, and was there for a while. In 1897 Mr. Crum put in a stock of goods and conducted a general store until 1900, when he sold out the stock to George F. Bell and retired from business. He took off the upper story, used the lumber in building a pretty home, and sold the lower story and the roof, we suppose to Joel Pate, who moved it up the street into the next block, where it is still used as a store. We have followed up this building because it was the very first building erected in the town and, like the man who built it, has stayed with the town and escaped the fire that burned down all the other very early buildings.

H. C. Whitney bought a lot on the northeast corner of Main and Fourth streets; his deed antedated Crum's deed by a day or so, but Crum's building was up first. Mr. Whitney put up a building and conducted a meat market in front, while there were living rooms back. Later Mr. Whitney and son Frank had a store in the building. H. C. Whitney was postmaster and had the office in his own building. Mr. and Mrs. Whitney and sons, Frank and Eugene, were very much liked in business and social life. Mr. Whitney was a sergeant in the Civil War and a sufferer from a terrible wound in the side, but was always a pleasant, cheerful man. Frank died and was buried in Templeton about 1898. In 1900 the family left Templeton, going to Piedmont, where they lived until moving to San Jose, where they now reside.

Lyman Brewer, the first Southern Pacific agent in Templeton, came down on a "construction limited," November 15, 1886, and opened up the box-car station. In this he and his pretty bride lived until the depot was built with living rooms above. Mr. Brewer was agent until June 1, 1892, when he left to go into the newly-opened Citizens Bank at Paso Robles as assistant cashier.

Frank Hansen, and his wife and daughter Etta, came to Templeton, he in October, 1886, and Mrs. Hansen and Etta in December. Mrs. Hansen was the third woman to come to live in Templeton. Mrs. Whitney and Mrs. Harry Scheele were already there. Mr. Hansen built a hotel and livery stable; he ran the hotel and stable until 1904, then quit the business, but still lives in his building. A son, Grant, was born in Templeton soon after the family came.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Scheele and daughter Mabel came to the town site before any buildings were up except Crum's, which was under way. Mr. Scheele was a painter and decorator and did about all that sort of work in the new town. Later he clerked in Quarnstrom's store, and about 1900 removed to Alameda, where he now has a good business and employs several men. Mr. Scheele and Miss Mabel were very much missed when they left, as they were

Will Lawton had the first drug store in town in a building on the southeast corner of Main and Fifth streets, where Petersen's store now stands.

Dr. Pendleton was the first physician to settle in town, and Dr. Glass of

Paso Robles was often called for consultation. Later, Dr. J. H. Heath came and was there until, in the 1900 exodus, he left and went to Oakland.

Dr. S. Helgesen, who had been a medical missionary in China, came early in 1897. She was a splendid doctor, a remarkable woman in many ways, and was an angel of mercy to that town and community until August, 1915, when she was killed on Cuesta Grade. She loved animals almost as much as humanity. She was driving her car up the grade and, in trying not to run down some loose horses, she swung her car too far over, and was hurled to her death. She was buried in the Templeton cemetery, August 15, 1915.

G. H. Fisher, wife and twin daughters, came to Templeton in the fall of 1886 or spring of 1887. They lived there until a few years ago, when the daughters were employed as teachers in the bay city and they removed to Berkeley. In December, 1915, Mr. Fisher died and his body was brought back to Templeton for burial.

Eben Ward had the first blacksmith shop in town. In January, 1887, H. B. Morrison bought a lot on South Main street and put up a shop; later he added farm machinery, bought for cash but sold on credit. He managed to keep this system up until 1899, when in broken health and after a loss of five thousand dollars' worth of property, he left the town. In April, 1887, he was married to a young lady teacher at Winters. He built a four-room house on his lot in town, and Mrs. Morrison bought eight acres west of town. In 1893 they built a nice home on the land, set out a prune orchard and lived there until, in April, 1900, Mrs. Morrison and the four children left to join Mr. Morrison at Nipomo. This property, that cost \$3000 all told, was sold for about \$700. This alone tells the story of conditions there in 1900. The property now belongs to Mr. McVicar. Jean Donelson worked for Ward awhile; and about 1889 Rainey and Donelson built a shop just north of the Morrison shop, on the lot south of the Reading Room, where Donelson ran a shop for years, until he went into the garage business.

In the fall of 1886, William Horstman came, bringing about \$40,000. He bought land, built a fine big home, set out orchards, built the first brick blocks in town and engaged in store-keeping. He lost heavily, as did other pioneers. One venture was a bank. His son Adolph, with A. P. Seeman, John Quarnstrom and H. Wessel, engaged in the banking business. In the end the bank failed and H. Wessel's money was no more, for by some means, Mrs. Wessel says, he was left to pay notes and other obligations. Maybe this was because he came there with over \$50,000 and the other parties in the business had little cash at that time, for William Horstman had drawn out of the concern before the crash came.

Hans Petersen, a brother-in-law of Mr. Horstman, came in 1888 with about \$30,000. He bought out Griffith, who had the first hardware store, and went into the hardware business, buying the Lawton building. He also bought land and set out orchards, and met the same fate as the rest of the pioneers—lost money. In October, 1898, a fire started in a saloon next to Whitney's and swept the entire side of the block, which was all filled in with wooden buildings. As soon as possible Petersen rebuilt, using brick, and stocked up again, also adding groceries. In 1908 he turned the business over to his sons and went to reside in Pismo, where he kept a small store. In May, 1913, Mr. and Mrs. Petersen celebrated their golden wedding in Templeton at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Joseph Eddy, entertaining over

three hundred guests. Mr. Petersen died January 1, 1916, and is buried in the Templeton cemetery.

Others engaged in business in pioneer days were A. F. Stull, general store; H. Morton, jeweler; E. A. Spangenberg, books and drugs; Brown, who bought out Spangenberg; and John Quarnstrom and A. P. Seeman, general merchandise. Gus Fredrickson bought out Muggler, who had a harness and shoe shop, and still conducts the business. Mrs. Tillman, Miss Annie Petersen, and Mrs. Culver had millinery shops at one time or another, as also Mrs. Hines, who became Mrs. Adolph Petersen.

Among the pioneer families are the Wessels, who came in April, 1891—Mr. and Mrs. Wessel and four children, Pauline, Etta, Frank and Harry. Mr. Wessel bought the fine home C. H. Phillips had built, and here the family has resided since. Pauline is a trained nurse, spending most of her time in the bay cities. Harry is a druggist in Honolulu. Frank married a daughter of Niels Johnson, and Etta remains with her mother. This family lost heavily in pioneer days. Mr. Wessel died October 6, 1915. Four pioneers were laid to rest within about four months—Dr. Helgesen, H. Wessel, G. H. Fisher and Hans Petersen.

Another pioneer family was the Bierers. They came in March, 1887, bringing a fine herd of Jersey cattle. They lived on the Santa Ysabel ranch for a time, and then bought a ranch west of town. Captain Everett H. Bierer was a staff officer under General Turney before he was twenty-one. He recruited a company of volunteers for the Civil War at Rockford, Ill. Captain Bierer died about four years ago. A daughter, Helen Jessie Bierer, a beautiful, brilliant girl, was a well-known teacher and lecturer on physical culture. She married and enjoyed a brief life of happy wedlock, but died, in spite of care, a few years later. Mrs. Amanda M. Bierer, the mother, still lives in Templeton and was ninety-two in November, 1916.

The James Mercer family, east of the river, and the Thomas family at Mt. Pleasant ranch, are old residents, who came with the earliest pioneers.

"College Hill" still enjoys its name. The site was given by the West Coast Land Co. to Professor Summers, who purposed to have a college going full blast in short order. He built a small building, taught a private school in it for a few months, rented it for a public school before the schoolhouse was put up, and finally sold it to a worthy Swede, who added blue trimmings to the yellow building, while the little Swedes frolicked over the whilom "campus" merry as crickets. The Professor always wore a slouch hat and a black Prince Albert coat, and summer and winter carried a silk umbrella. He was "from Kentucky, Suh," and added a touch of dignity to the frivolous "boom town," where all the inhabitants, ladies included, insisted on going down to meet the trains. Why not? It was all the excitement there was for the ladies. The train men and male citizens could play cards and hold tarantula fights. That was some sport, too, let me tell you. Water was poured down the tarantula's hole, a wide-mouthed bottle caught Mr. Tarantula when he swam out, and then the men placed bets. The "bugs" were turned loose and literally the dust flew.

The Eddy brothers, James, Joseph, and William S., have done much to improve the business conditions of the town and county. They were bright young fellows who started in to make good, and they did. They went into the cattle business, buying and selling, established first-class meat markets in

Templeton and Paso Robles, bought up thousands of cords of wood and shipped it, and purchased real estate and sold when the rise came. James died April 11, 1911; William resides in Paso Robles; and Joseph, in Templeton, where he is a leading man in all that goes for improvement and moral uplift.

The Dupont Powder Works have had a big charcoal concern near Templeton for some years.

Will Hudson is the owner of a gravel plant, where cars and wagons are loaded by an immense steam shovel.

Among the present business men are Marker & Sharp, general merchandise; Petersen Bros., hardware and groceries; Albert Horstman, meat market; Clauson, general merchandise; Charles Johnson, groceries. The first paper published in the town was the Templeton Times, edited by Captain Haley but financed by the West Coast Lumber Company. There are now two, the Advance, edited and owned by Ben Bierer, and the Times, owned by Mr. Osgood. The grammar school of three rooms was built in 1887, and with the land valued at \$10,000, more than it is worth now. A union high school is being built and is described in the chapter on schools. The town is "dry," but seems to thrive, as do others like it.

### Churches

There is a large brick church belonging to the Swedish Lutheran society, who also own a hall for social gatherings. The Swedish residents of the vicinity have always been a most thrifty and desirable class.

The Presbyterian church at Templeton was built in 1888, and dedicated late that year. Rev. F. H. Robinson was the first pastor, Rev. Wells followed him and in 1892 Rev. Isaac Baird became pastor, and served for six years. Rev. Lowry, Rev. John H. McLennon, and Rev. Thompson followed in succession, and there may have been others for short periods.

In June, 1887, the first "entertainment" in the town of Templeton was given under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid of the Presbyterian Church. The writer was in charge of it. Music, tableaux, readings and "Mrs. Jarley's Wax Works" were on the program. It came off in Knapp's hall, was a great success and netted nearly one hundred fifty dollars. The church organ was paid for and a surplus left. A young man who afterwards became famous as a novelist and playwright, Horace A. Vachell, was present. He was courting Miss Lydie Phillips, the beautiful daughter of C. H. Phillips, who a year or so later became his bride; and as he has put most of this county and a good many of its people into his books, we do not doubt he got "material" out of some of us and our efforts at "entertaining."

A manse was built at Templeton, and for years the faithful women of the "Aid" toiled to get it clear of debt, which they finally did some eighteen years after it was built. The church has been the scene of many christenings and weddings, and from its door have been carried the bodies of the loved dead. Patriarchs, men and women in the prime of life, maidens and little children have all been carried from that little church among the oak trees to their last resting-place "beneath the sky, underneath the sod, but home to God."

We can not forbear writing about the beautiful country about Templeton. Nowhere on earth is there a more beautiful spot, with the distant blue

mountains; the rounded hills covered in spring with wild oats, where not cultivated; the wide, park-like valley dotted with immense oaks; the Salinas river, with its tree-fringed banks—alders, willows, sycamores and oaks—and spicewood breathing its fragrance on the air. Wild roses in spring and waxen "snowberries" in winter beautify the wilderness of undergrowth along the streams. The climate is very salubrious. Templeton is now coming into its own. The little town, with its beautiful setting, will ever be dear to the writer and all the others who, during those first hopeful, happy days, picked flowers in the streets, shunned squirrel holes in the same, or brought land at the big sale in April, when the brass band played and the auctioneer made you feel that you had to have a lot in the "villa" tract or a ranch. We got the "villa" lot, built a nice home, and lost out because others would not pay their debts, so we could cancel a \$700 mortgage.

During the last few years, real estate has sold at a good price; the town is electric-lighted; and in all respects Templeton is now a lively, thrifty community.

### SAN MIGUEL

San Miguel, our most northern town, is located north of the old Mission, and was begun when the Southern Pacific came in 1886. It has had its ups and downs along with the rest of the pioneers. It is the shipping point for the wheat grown in that section, and has a large S. P. Milling Co. warehouse. It was there the Farmers' Alliance built a fine grist-mill in the early nineties. There have been the usual number of general stores and shops for all purposes. It has a pretty park, with its flag pole in the center, from which often float the Stars and Stripes. A big celebration was held there on the one hundredth anniversary of the Mission, when old, decrepit Indians came from San Juan and other places, who, in their childhood and youth, lived at the San Miguel Mission. South of town stands an old two-story adobe that was once the Caledonian Hotel, and where balls were held to which the whole countryside came. This was quite a famous hostelry in the stage-line days, and was the scene of lively times when the Southern Pacific was building. There are a good three-room schoolhouse, a Methodist church, and good store buildings, some of brick. The town is on the state highway, as well as on the Southern Pacific; and it presents a neat, thrifty appearance. Adjacent to the town are two cheese factories, one owned by J. M. Kalar and one by Clark & Marzorini. Mrs. E. Cole is a pioneer business woman who has a general store. Other stores are: C. E. Ader, confectionery, E. Bergeman, Gorham & Sonneberg, L. Lacefield, general merchandise, Thralls & Co. There are a garage, a blacksmith shop, and various repair shops. San Miguel has always had a local paper; at present it is the San Miguel Sentinel. Dr. McNaul and Dr. L. D. Murphy look after the health of the community. Lately San Miguel has joined the ranks of the "drys," having voted to abolish the saloon.

### CRESTON

Creston is a small village with a general store and post office, a blacksmith shop, a few houses and a schoolhouse. It is about twelve miles south-east of Paso Robles, and is reached by daily stage carrying mail and passengers between Paso Robles and Creston.





ARCH ROCK AND SCENE AT PISMO BEACH

### SANTA MARGARITA

Santa Margarita is the next town south of Templeton, and was laid out and had a land sale in the spring of 1889, soon after the Southern Pacific reached there. It is built on a part of the Santa Margarita ranch. The state highway passes through it. The rich country around and to the east of it makes Santa Margarita its shipping point. It is just at the foot of the Santa Lucia range, and there extra engines are "hooked on" to all trains for the stiff pull to the summit. The S. P. Milling Co. has warehouses there, and a lumber yard. There are general stores owned by T. W. Arnold, Lauritson Bros., and L. D. Weeks, a pioneer merchant. The Eureka Hotel is run by Henry Langreder. Harper & Kendrick own a garage. There are a meat market and shops of various kinds, a Catholic church, a number of pretty homes, and a very fine new schoolhouse described in the chapter on schools.

### NIPOMO

This little town is on the Pacific Coast Railroad about half-way between Arroyo Grande and Santa Maria. It is built on the Nipomo ranch, and the Dana families live on some of the surrounding ranches. All that section once belonged to the founder of the Dana family, W. G. Dana. There are the Methodist and Catholic churches, a modern schoolhouse of four or five rooms, and many substantial and pretty homes. It is a shipping point for beans and barley, the principal crops grown in that section. Grocery stores are owned by Burke Bros. and the Dana Mercantile Co. Mrs. Cameron has for years kept a supply of dry goods. There are shops to meet other needs, and W. M. Cotter runs a meat market. Two saloons still remain, one run by J. A. G. (Jag) Dana, and one by B. Knotts.

### PISMO

This town exists because of the beautiful Pismo beach, which for twenty miles curves away to Point Sal in Santa Barbara county, and which is by all odds the finest in the state. Under right management it will soon come into its own. The hotel, bath house, etc., came into the possession of the J. P. Andrews heirs when a mortgage had to be foreclosed a few years ago. Saloons and things that go with them tend to draw a certain undesirable element, and the place suffers in consequence. There is a tent city, which in the summer season is full of tenants. The Pismo clam beds have long been famous for their delicious bivalves. The beach is wide, the sand clean and white, and surf bathing safe and very enjoyable. There are hot and cold salt baths under cover. The view out over the placid blue ocean or up the beach towards the bold rocky point north, or south to Point Sal, is one never to be forgotten. There are a two-room schoolhouse, a post office, a garage, and several shops and stores. Many people come to this beach from the hot San Joaquin valley during the summer and there are some very pretty summer homes at Pismo. When the beach is known for what it is, it will be a winter resort as well; for the soft, sunny winter days at Pismo are a rare delight.

### ARROYO GRANDE

Arroyo Grande is located on the Pacific Coast Railroad about thirty miles south of San Luis Obispo. It is built on land granted to the Pacific



the banks of the Arroyo Grande creek. Originally it was all one big "monte," covered with willows and brush; in fact, the whole floor of the valley was a monte. F. Z. Branch gave the people the use, for five years, of every acre they would clear and cultivate. The land about the town and where it now is was sold in the monte state for eighty dollars per acre, but this same land has since sold for from three hundred to six and eight hundred dollars per acre. The town in 1867 consisted of a small schoolhouse and a blacksmith shop, and was on the stage line to Santa Barbara. By 1876 it had two hotels, one owned by W. H. Ryan, two stores, two saloons, a wheelwright and blacksmith shop, a schoolhouse, a post office, a lively stable and a number of residences.

In 1877 there was quite a rush for land in the valley, and the school had an attendance of one hundred children. The early settlers were God-fearing people, and regular religious services were held in the schoolhouse. The religious element has continued to predominate, and now there are Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal, Catholic and Seventh Day Adventist churches in the town. The Methodist people built a large tabernacle on the hill above the town, and every summer an Epworth League rally and camp meeting are held there. Hammerschlag and Meherin Bros. were the pioneer storekeepers.

The Odd Fellows numbered sixteen members in 1877, meeting in a hall over Meherin Brothers' store. This lodge now owns a beautiful two-story building, built of the handsome yellow sandstone quarried near the town. The Good Samaritans, a temperance lodge, built a hall which was used for a high school, or what passed for one, in 1899, and is now the city hall. The temperance element also thrived, and the town is now saloonless.

The Pismo wharf, built in 1881 by Meherin Bros. and a few others, was designed to do big things for Arroyo Grande valley. It was 1,600 feet long, twenty feet above low water, and the water was twenty-seven feet deep at its ocean end. The cost was \$14,613. During 1882 thirty-eight vessels (schooners) were loaded at the wharf, and it was estimated that over \$30,000 was saved the farmers in freights. In 1881 the Pacific Coast Railway reached the town, and for the next two or three years there were lively times. The town claimed two hundred population. A warehouse 48x100 feet was put up; W. B. Carman opened a drug store; Phillips & Co. put up a store 40x80 feet; R. Orton & Co. had a flour and grist mill; and in 1882 the Arroyo Grande Irrigating Co. had two ditches capable of watering three thousand acres.

Dr. Paulding and Dr. Clark, both pioneer physicians, are still practicing in the community; and there is a third physician, Dr. Gallup. Dr. C. S. Noble is the dentist of the town, and W. A. Conrad has the drug store. About fifteen years ago, a company of theosophists bought the big Coffee Rice house and named it "Halcyon"; and there, two miles down the valley, they have a sanitarium.

The town has grown slowly but surely. It was incorporated as a city of the sixth class, July 10, 1911, with a population of about twelve hundred. The first board of city trustees consisted of F. E. Bennett, president; S. Alexander, George Grieb, G. W. Gilliam, and A. A. Henry. B. F. Stewart was, and still is, city clerk. C. B. Doty was city marshal. The members of the board are elected every two years. The present board are: Bennett, president; Gilliam, Grieb, H. E. Cox, and C. S. Noble. Cleon Kite is postmaster; George

Ide, assistant. The town is lighted by electricity and there is a proposition before the city to install public water works. About 1904, Russell Robinson put up an electric plant and barley crushing mill. He supplied light and water to all who would buy, until he sold out his plant to the Midland Counties Light and Power Corporation. There is a fine grammar school on a two-acre campus, and a new \$12,000 high school building, both more particularly mentioned in the chapter on schools. There are several general stores, two hardware firms, Lynam's harness and shoe shop, and shops of various kinds. There is a creamery depot, a branch of the Los Angeles Creamery, and a millinery store owned by Mrs. Ellen Adair. E. C. Loomis has a large warehouse and a barley crushing mill.

The Bank of Arroyo Grande began as a branch of the Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo, October 1, 1901; but on November 7, 1903, it was incorporated, with D. D. Barnard, president; S. A. Dana, vice-president; A. L. Bickell, cashier. The directors were McD. Venable, L. C. Routzahn, M. R. Swall and P. Olohan. The officials at present are M. R. Swall, president; S. A. Dana, vice-president; J. S. Gibson, cashier; and J. B. Gibson, assistant cashier. The capital in 1903 was \$25,000; now it is \$50,000.

The Arroyo Grande Herald was first published in 1885 by Steve Clevenger, owner and editor. He died in 1910, and his wife and son ran the paper for a year. In 1911, W. H. Smith bought the Herald and another local paper, the Record, and consolidated them into the Record-Herald, which he still publishes.

The large Routzahn seed farms and the Johansen seed farm are located near Arroyo Grande. For many years Mr. Routzahn supplied millions of sweet peas to church societies that gave sweet-pea festivals. These festivals were great affairs, and goodly sums were netted the societies giving them. Often most beautiful designs were worked out in the fragrant blossoms. Very fine horticultural and agricultural fairs used to be held also; but for some reason both the festivals and the fairs have been discontinued. They did more to keep up an outside interest in the town and valley than anything else has ever done.

The state highway, when it is completed, will pass through Arroyo Grande. The scenery about Arroyo Grande is inviting, and the climate is all that could be desired. The flower embowered homes speak for themselves.

### The Valley

Arroyo Grande valley has a very deep, rich soil. Berries, walnuts, many kinds of fruit trees, and all sorts of vegetables—potatoes, onions, squashes and pumpkins—grow to perfection. Apples do especially well, and large orchards once existed; but carelessness resulted in the trees becoming badly diseased, and shipment of apples was prohibited. The last ship-load sent to Australia from the valley was refused at the port, it is said, and was dumped overboard.

Two or three different times during the last decade the creek has "gone on a rampage," and each time carried away acres and acres of the richest soil. A few years ago the "lake" and a great volume of water tore through across Main street, to reach the creek, cutting out a gulch twenty feet in depth and far greater in width. The bridges were torn out or badly damaged. Thousands of dollars' damage was done to the Routzahn seed farms. The warehouse and tons of valuable seeds were destroyed or damaged, and many acres

were swept away or covered several feet deep with gravel and débris. The creek is at times a menace to the town and valley under existing conditions, though its waters are very valuable for irrigating.

Many fine homes dot the valley. The "Huasna," originally owned by Isaac Sparks, is about twelve miles from the town. Fine wheat and barley are grown there, and many cattle range over the "Upper Huasna."

### OCEANO

This is a little village about halfway between Arroyo Grande and Pismo on the Southern Pacific Railroad. It is quite a freight station, much of the Arroyo Grande valley produce being shipped from there. It has a population of several hundred. "Le Grand Beach" is near by, and efforts are being made to develop a seaside resort. The village has a post office, shops, and general stores, and a school employing two teachers.

### NEWSOM'S SPRINGS

About two miles east of Arroyo Grande, in a beautiful valley, is the great warm white sulphur spring owned by the D. F. Newsom heirs. There are a bath house and several cottages. The springs used to be a favorite resort and camping place. Some years ago, when the winter rains did so much havoc, the Newsom valley was badly washed out. Before D. F. Newsom's death the hotel, cottages, and bath house were kept in good repair. Big oaks and sycamores grow beside the spring and the little stream. The air is balmy, and no finer camping spot exists. The water has a temperature of about 100 degrees Fahrenheit and is of considerable medicinal value.

### BERROS

This is a small station on the Pacific Coast Railroad five miles south of Arroyo Grande, and has a schoolhouse, store, blacksmith shop, and post office. A number of good-sized chicken ranches are in the locality.

### SAN SIMEON

San Simeon was once a town of considerable importance. Its wharf is described along with the other wharves of the county. As it is on private property, the Hearst ranch, there is little hope for its growth while that estate remains one man's property. In the days when all that coast section depended upon shipping from San Simeon it was quite a busy place. During the first six months of 1869, \$62,650 worth of produce was shipped from there besides many live hogs. In 1876 two general stores did a good business. It was the end of the coastwise stage line, and Brown had put on a new stage which made daily trips to and from San Luis Obispo carrying mail and passengers. A telegraph line was run to the county-seat. The Ocean View mine was shipping quicksilver, and chrome ore was also shipped. In 1878 Mr. Frankl had the only store, which did a big business; he was also wharfinger. That year three hundred flasks of quicksilver worth \$40 each were shipped, or \$12,000 worth. Flour and chrome ore cost \$3.00 per ton for shipment. In 1864 Captain Clark located a whaling station at San Simeon. He had five boats in 1878, two of them thirty feet long and six feet wide. He employed from ten to twenty men during the season, which lasted from November to April. The lowest catch for any year was three whales, and the largest

catch for a season, twenty-three. After Cayucos became a town and had a good wharf, San Simeon had to divide the business, and now there is but little doing at San Simeon. A son of the Frankl spoken of was in charge of the wharf in 1908 and considerable business was carried on over the wharf. At present Roy Summers is wharfinger. Small steamers call once or twice a week for beans and other produce that is shipped in the fall. There is a schoolhouse, and the store and post office are run by Mr. Sebastian. If ever the Hearst ranch is subdivided, a lively town may spring up where now stands a little group of houses, a store and a hotel.

### Piedra Blanca Lighthouse

About six miles up the coast from San Simeon on a rocky point stands the lighthouse. The tower is 100 feet high and the lantern 150 feet above sea level. It throws alternate rays and flashes fifteen miles out to sea. A keeper and two assistants are always in charge. An immense steam fog-horn and whistle are used in time of fog and storm. The old white cliffs were named Piedra Blanca (white stone) by Cabrillo in 1542, and no one has ever changed the name. When the winter storms rave along that rocky coast, Piedra Blanca lighthouse is a lonely place for the two or three families who live there; but when the soft summer winds just ripple the sea, and flowers and waving grass are all about, a visit to the lighthouse is a delight.

### CAMBRIA

This town is located about ten miles south of San Simeon, where once giant pines covered the earth. It is built on land that, with a large surrounding tract, was held or used by Julian Estrada as a part of his grant, the Santa Rosa. After the dry year land was sold for very little, as witness the Steeles' great buy of 45,000 acres for one dollar and ten cents an acre. Surveyors were set to work to make a thorough government survey and throw open all land for settlement that rightly belonged to the government. A large tract along Santa Rosa creek and much in other sections, in Green Valley for instance, was thus opened up, and settlers flocked in. Early settlers about Cambria were De Nise, the Leffingwells, O. P. McFaddon, Jeffrey Phelan, John C. Hill, F. J. Peterson, J. M. Whitaker, Alexander Cook, the Olmsteads, Neil Stewart, A. C. Buffington, C. H. Evans, B. Short, S. M. Davidson, J. R. Fletcher, G. O. Campbell, Mather and others. Letcher and Leffingwell each had a sawmill and from the great pines sawed lumber for the new settlers' homes, and for fences and posts.

The first name applied to the settlement was Slabtown. Others wanted it named Santa Rosa and Roseville. It remained, however, for a decided old Welshman to name it for all time. While others were squabbling over the name, he hung out his sign, "Cambria Carpenter Shop." This man from Wales, Llewellyn by name, persistently spoke of the town as "Cambria" (Wales); and when it came to a show-down with the postal authorities, "Cambria" stood the test and became the town's official name.

In 1867 no travel took place between Cambria and San Luis except by private conveyance, mostly on horseback, and mail had to be got at San Luis Obispo, nearly forty miles away. In 1868 the government put on a weekly mail service, in 1869 a tri-weekly mail service. In July, 1866, G. W.

Lull had a store, the first one north of San Luis, at a point between Santa Rosa and San Simeon creeks. In 1867 the store was moved a half mile north of where the town now is; and in 1868 it moved into town, and the firm of Lull, Grant & Co. began doing business. Lull and Leffingwell came to the county in 1859. M. J. Phelan came earlier than either of these men, and in 1859 he built the first schoolhouse in that end of the county. It was in a little cañon between Phelan's ranch and San Simeon creek, and was called San Simeon school. The first store built in the new town was put up by S. A. Pollard and George E. Long on a lot later occupied by Ramage & Conway's store. Dairying was the chief business about Cambria, as we learn that in 1869 \$30,000 worth of butter was shipped from the San Simeon wharf. In 1871 the Excelsior Cheese Factory, owned by Bowen, Baker & Co., was built about four miles south of Cambria, and from 400 to 500 cows furnished milk for it. The Tribune says as high as 1200 pounds of cheese were made daily and sold for seventeen or eighteen cents per pound. In 1872 the Farmers and Stockraisers' Co-operative Store was established, with \$40,000 stock, 2,000 shares at twenty dollars each. A Grange was next in order.

From about 1862 a mining fever occurred at frequent intervals. Coal, copper and quicksilver were all said to exist in large quantities. Copper and chrome were mined and ore was shipped; and in 1871 a rich lode of quicksilver was found. The mines of Cambria are mentioned in the chapter on mineral productions. Quicksilver mining, especially in the Oceanic mines, has meant much to Cambria business men.

Dr. Frame was the first physician in Cambria. He died of diphtheria, February 23, 1869. This scourge swept the country about Cambria again in 1882, and about Cayucos and on Old creek many children died.

Cambria has always been patriotic. From an old Tribune we read, "Cambria led off in 1867 with the first real Fourth of July celebration." For many years Cambria has celebrated Admission Day with a barbecue, speeches, music and a Wild West show. The celebration site is up in the pines back of town. In 1870 Cambria celebrated with races of all sorts at Van Gordon's race track.

Probably Cambria's most palmy days were about 1880, for from old reports and newspapers we learn that Grant, Lull & Co., G. W. Ramage, Gans & Co. and S. Goss all ran general stores. There were two drug stores, owned by Manderscheid Bros. and Mr. Fisher, respectively. Geo. M. Cole had a harness shop; Fred Ott, a shoe shop; J. W. Stiles, a jewelry shop; Jennie Bright, a millinery shop. These were two wagon shops, one owned by Philip Kaetzl, the other by F. Sherman. John Hackney and P. H. Eubanks each had a blacksmith shop. James D. Campbell and Jerry Johnson each ran a livery stable. Manon & Davis had a large sawmill, and Baker & Marsh dealt in lumber. Jasper N. Turney practiced law.

The town has never attained much size, but it is a pretty little village, with the ocean at its feet and the pine-clad bluffs at its back. The Santa Rosa creek flows beside the town. There are two churches, Presbyterian and Catholic. A good schoolhouse with rooms for a hundred children is built on a hillside. The town has a newspaper, the Cambria Courier, run by C. A. Meacham. The Bank of Cambria is a solid institution and a great help to business in the northern half of the county. J. H. Bradhoff is president and Merle Jones cashier. The principal business houses are the Swiss

American Supply; George Dickie, hardware; Piancorini & Co., general merchandise. L. J. Renshaw has a drug store. Dr. Fossum and Dr. H. H. Shaw have offices in the town and attend to patients. E. Asebes has a meat market. The Cambria Hotel is in charge of Ad Cannozzi. Renshaw's auto livery and the Coast Truck Company, owned by Minetti & Villa, do business for the community. Years ago a railroad was actively discussed, but no more is said about it. A railroad or electric line all the way up the coast would be of great value, and some day it will be built.

### CAYUCOS

"Cayucos" means "canoes"; and the name was first applied to the bay because in early days these small craft, made of skin, were used in visiting the steamers that came to anchor in the bay. The Indians probably made the first skin boats here, as in other places. In 1867, Captain James Cass came to Cayucos and engaged in landing merchandise and getting off produce. Later the wharf, described in the chapter on wharves and other means of transportation, was constructed. In 1875, Cass's dwelling, the warehouse containing the store, and a ranch house in the distance composed the town of Cayucos. Later a new firm, Dunn, McMillan & Co., built a store and conducted a general merchandise business. Grant, Lull & Co. of Cambria also had a store at Cayucos. In 1878, C. H. Phillips bought the Morro y Cayucos rancho, subdivided it, laid out the town of Cayucos and sold off many ranches. Many Swiss settled about Cayucos and engaged in dairying, which has always been the principal business. All sorts of crops will grow on the level land, but as most of the country is rolling hills or steep enough to be mountainous, dairy cattle are most profitable. Along the streams irrigation now keeps alfalfa for green feed growing all the year. Morganti & Signorini kept the first hotel, and R. Cheda seems to have been next in line. Rev. A. B. Spooner was the first minister of the gospel in that end of the county. In 1881, Rev. J. H. Blitch preached in Stone's hall the first Sunday in the month, the second at San Luis Obispo, the third at the schoolhouse in Green Valley and the fourth Sunday at the Cambria Presbyterian Church. A. Leroy kept a store in Cayucos for a while in 1881. Summers & Murry were blacksmiths; De Rome bought out Summers and the firm became De Rome & Murry. B. F. Bidamon had a harness shop. Riordan's boot and shoe shop and Barnes' butcher shop completed the list. Dr. Lane was also located there. The town lots sold for seventy-five dollars and the ranch land for twenty-five dollars per acre, we are told. Fire at different times has swept the one main street, and now there are some good concrete stores in Cayucos. There are two churches, Presbyterian and Catholic.

There is an abalone cannery at Cayucos that from May to November employs sixteen men and two boats gathering the abalones from the rocks. Divers pry the abalones off where the rocks are submerged. The cannery is supplied with modern machinery. Met cut the abalones from the shells; then they are cut, packed in tin cans, cooked, sealed, and cooked again in big steam vats. Six thousand cases were prepared and shipped this season. Seven American girls or women and eight or nine men work in the cannery. This is a branch of the Point Lobos Canning Co., which owns all the abalone canneries in the state. Japanese do the catching, and Mr. Aoki, the superin-

tendent of the cannery, is a very polite, capable man. Everything about the cannery was spotless. Mr. Roy Beebee was at the abalone plant buying the shells for C. C. Lord & Co. of Long Beach, who manufacture all sorts of ornaments and jewelry from them. He wanted thirty tons of shells, but could get only twenty tons. It is from these shells that the beautiful "blister pearls" are obtained, which sell for twenty cents each and up, and an enormous pile containing "blisters" had been set aside by the company and were not for sale with the others. Mr. Aoki presented the writer with a very beautiful pearl, and several shells containing others.

There are three firms doing a general merchandise business, Cass & Co., Tognini & Ghezzi, and Tomasini Bros. The Exchange Hotel is run by Minetti & Nicola, and the Cottage Hotel by Mrs. L. Pedraita. James Pedrotta has a blacksmith shop. A. Canevascini has a meat market. E. J. Tomasini is postmaster. There are two cream stations, branches of Swift & Co. and the Los Angeles Creamery Co. The California Central Creamery makes butter. Only one small steamer, the "Homer," now calls once a week, bringing and taking away freight. The auto trucks and creameries, instead of the old-fashioned "dairy" where the butter was made on the ranch, have made a big difference in steamer traffic.

One more O. K. Smith item. Mr. James Cass, who lived in Cayucos when Smith disappeared, told the writer a few days ago that he fully believed Smith was driving in the surf on the beach near Morro Point and was drowned. Mr. Cass said that not long after the tragedy he was riding along on horseback just about where Smith's papers were found, and all at once his horse was caught in a swirl of quicksand and its hind quarters sank so that the little boy riding behind Mr. Cass would have slid off had he not reached back and caught the child. Mr. Cass also said Smith had a strong premonition that evil lay in wait, for he tried hard to get Mr. Cass to go with him to San Luis, and also asked Rudisill to go when he was leaving Stone's saloon. Several of the stories told the writer have previously been given. The mystery remains, and the reader may choose his own theory.

### The Cayucos Bank Robbery

Early in August, 1892, a man named Dunn, living in Oak Park, stole a fine mare from Steele Bros. at Corral de Piedra and was known to have gone north. Peter Banks, a one-armed man, but without fear, was constable of San Luis Obispo and was over in Paso Robles on business. Word was sent to him to look out for the horse and Dunn. Banks arrested Dunn in a lumber yard at Paso Robles just as he was taking sixty-five dollars from a buyer for the animal, valued at two hundred dollars. The County Bank had a branch bank in Cayucos and J. J. Simmler was the cashier. Banks started for San Luis with his prisoner. At Santa Margarita they had supper. Before leaving, Dunn demanded whiskey. He was already "ugly" from drink. Banks said he thought, as he was one-armed and alone, he had better humor him, and so got a bottle of it. Dunn seemed to study for a while after leaving Santa Margarita, and finally said, "Banks, I'm in a hell of a fix, ain't I?" Banks agreed. "Well, if I put you wise to something bigger than stealing a horse, will you help me out of this?" "I will," said Banks, "if you prove that it is." Dunn then told Banks that he, a man named Isom, one named Goss, one named Bill Brown, and one other, had a series of robberies

planned. They were to rob Fort Harford, Santa Margarita and the Cayucos bank. Banks took Dunn to Sheriff O'Neal and he repeated the tale. The officers then agreed to let him go if he kept "mum" and the story proved to be true. On the night of August 30, 1892, the Cayucos robbery was to come off. That would be "butter day," and \$3,000 or more was sure to be in the bank's vault. For four weeks Dunn had to "play the game" with his pals. On August 30th, about six P. M., Sheriff O'Neal, Deputy Sheriff A. C. McLeod, Banks and his deputy, Kues, left San Luis for Cayucos. Meantime the bank had been informed and Mrs. Simmler had that afternoon carried a big iron bucket full of gold over to Cass, who put it in his safe. The plot was, to go to Simmler's house, tell a story about a sick woman, gain admittance and then force Simmler to go to the bank and open the safe. Simmler weakened and refused to remain at the house; so Banks got Will Waterman to go to the house and stay. Mrs. Simmler went to the hotel for the night. This aroused interest, and when the four officers drove into town the citizens were sure something was about to happen and at once got their "guns." The officers warned them to get to cover, as there was likely to be shooting. James Cass was in the secret and acting with the officers. About nine o'clock that evening one of the robbers got a livery team at Sarmiento's stable and with others of the gang drove to Cayucos, arriving about midnight. They each donned a gunny sack with slits cut for arms and eyes. At the last minute O'Neal and Kues showed the white feather and refused to be in the bank when the robbers entered, so they stayed out in the back yard. Banks, with his one arm, and Deputy McLeod took their station in a little room back of the one the bank was conducted in. The fellows went to Simmler's house and asked for him. Waterman replied that he was out of town. "Are you in charge of the bank?" "Yes." "Well, then, you'll do. Come along." Waterman had been told to pretend to unlock the safe (it was off the combination), to throw open the large iron door and slip behind it, which he did. One of the fellows refused to enter the bank, "got cold feet" and skipped across the street.

Cass was hiding in a lumber pile just back of where he stood. When Waterman swung back the safe door, Banks and McLeod pushed open the door and McLeod said, "Hands up!" Bill Brown was on guard and the others down before the safe. Brown fired, his bullet splintering the door casing. McLeod was shocked by the glancing bullet and reeled against Banks, saying, "I'm shot!" Banks was covering the fellows before the safe, but he knew it was shoot or be shot; so he fired. Brown fell, but fired after he fell, and McLeod carries the bullet in his back yet.

A candle burning on the counter was blown out, and in the darkness Isom and Goss escaped, took horses tied at a hitching rack and fled to the hills, where they were in hiding for weeks, and finally got clear away. O'Neal and Kues ran; it was too much for their nerves. The fellow who got "cold feet" sprinted also, and Cass fired at him, but a telegraph pole got the shot. He took the team, drove it to within a mile of San Luis and turned it loose. He was arrested and jailed, but was let go on turning state's evidence at the trial. Poor Bill Brown was carried into the hall and died next day, realizing that the way of the transgressor is hard. Some years later, when Ballou was sheriff, Goss was caught near San Diego and Isom near Sacramento. Both were brought back for trial and sentenced to ten years imprisonment.



Goss died in prison. Most of these men were young, and it was a dare-devil game, probably their first real offense of the kind. It was a logical outcome of conditions that had previously existed in the county, and the blame goes beyond those who were in the robbery. Dunn had a wife and several children. Mr. Banks, Mr. McLeod, Mr. Cass and Mrs. Simmler all gave accounts of this affair to the writer, and it is no doubt correct in all respects.

## MORRO

### Morro Rock

Standing on the gently sloping sand  
That rises back from Morro's shining bay,  
I look along the glistening stretch of strand,  
And hear the roar of surf, and see the spray  
That rises white and pure as mountain snow,  
With showers of diamond drops flung far and wide.

Flashing and gleaming in the rosy glow  
Of twilight's charming hour, the sea gulls glide  
On flapping wings at ease, high in the air,  
Or stand in rows all silent side by side,  
Watching and waiting for their evening-fare.

Alone and grand from out the white sea-foam,  
Old Morro lifts his rugged form on high;  
Where fierce, tempestuous winds in fury roam,  
Dauntless he lifts his head against the sky.  
He stands through storm and sunshine, night and day,  
The firm, grim guardian of the placid bay.

Long may the storm king howl upon the deep  
And strew with helpless wrecks the sandy shore,  
Hurl his wild waves about old Morro's feet  
And fill the air with wild, incessant roar;  
But firm and staunch, through danger's deafening din,  
Stands the bold sentry of the bay within.

C. ELWOOD.

This beautiful little poem by Elwood we copy from Angel's History, of 1883. It is one of those stray bits of descriptive verse found in old newspapers, that never get saved in book form and whose authors are never duly appreciated. In the old files of the Tribune, when Murray was editor, are some gems of poetry, as fine literature as the first-class magazines ever published.

Morro Rock was named by Cabrillo when, in 1542, he sailed up the coast, the first white man to set foot upon the shore of our county. This great cone is the last of a chain of peculiar pyramidal peaks that, beginning with San Luis Mountain and Bishop Peak, run northwesterly, ending with Morro Rock out in the sea. It is a grim, lonely pile of reddish granite rising five hundred eighty feet out of the sea and covering over fifty acres. A smaller rock rises a short distance beyond it on the northwest, and between the two





rocks the sea rushes like a mill-race. A long sand-bar has formed between it and the mainland, and the bay is now very shallow. Once in a long while, the tide is so low one may walk almost to the Rock. There used to be a little hut on the land side of Morro Rock, and an old couple lived in it. A few half-wild goats and sheep found a scant living on the Rock. Thousands of tons of rock were blasted from its sides and taken in barges to build the breakwater at Port San Luis.

Eighteen years ago hundreds of people camped on the "Point" just north of the little village. The writer was there and kept the "census" for the San Luis Breeze, and from two hundred fifty to three hundred campers were there for at least six weeks. Many came from the San Joaquin valley and from the Salinas valley. We used to get up "shows" for evening entertainment and build a great bonfire. Spooner had a store on the Point, and Mrs. Stocking used to make the most delicious pies, cake and bread to sell to us. Old Dr. Smiley had a home in the town and another on his ranch north of town. He used to fix up all the little sick children who were brought over there. It was his personality as much as his little white pills (he was a homeopath) that saved the babies, for when he held out his old arms and said, "Come to doctor," the sickest, shyest little child would go to him, cuddle down on his shoulder and begin to get well. It was a problem then for the doctor to get rid of his little patients, but he would let them swarm about him and hold the littlest ones two or three at a time in his kind old arms. Dr. Smiley came to Morro very early. He had lost his eyesight, almost, in an accident in the East. His wife and two little girls had died; and out in this state, in the little seaside hamlet, he finished his days. Harry Osgood—a son, we think, of Henry Osgood, the pioneer—had nursed the doctor when ill, and to him he willed his fine ranch at Morro. A little blue glass pitcher is treasured by the writer as a keepsake from this kindly old gentleman.

We used to have dances on the Point, and a "bunch" of young Swedes put on a "circus." They did some wonderful athletic turns, and the clown wore his mother's gayly flowered calico "wrapper." Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Kiler of Paso Robles used to recite, as did also the writer. We sang; and the "San Joaquin Band"—two guitars, a violin and a banjo—made the music. When the politicians were out campaigning, they all had an evening at the Point. Warren M. John, "Charlie" Palmer, Barlow, Spangenberg and all the office-seekers in 1899, used to come to the Point, give the glad hand and kiss the "kids." As an old Irish lady said, "Thim were the happy days." One day, early in the morning, word went down the line that a dead man had been brought into camp who had died that night on his way over from Lemoore. A hush fell over the campers. Pretty soon it was reported he had "come to," and we heard a sigh of relief, for we were too lively a crowd for a dead man. By noon he was able to sit up, and by three P. M. he was playing cards. Talk about climate; beat that if you can!

### The Legend of Morro Rock

A Spaniard so loved the great Rock and beautiful bay that he built a splendid home, for the times, calling it Morro Castle. It was built about 1830, was over two hundred feet long, two stories high, with walls three feet thick, iron-barred doors and windows, a court and corridors. The "Castle" cost \$40,000. A "Passing Traveler" thus speaks of it: "The largest hall is

eighty feet long, with six windows. The plastering, made of gypsum found near by, has fallen off in places, but the great joists are as firm as ever. The stairway leading to the garret is on the outside of the house. A wall almost reaching the roof runs through the weird old garret. Moth-eaten costumes of silk and velvet, still showing gold-lace trimming, lay in heaps on the floor. Old saddles, bridles and spurs lay about." The Spaniard requested that when he died his body should be carried to the top of Morro Rock and be there left beneath a rocky cairn. His wishes were not executed, but his steed was said to be heard madly galloping down to the shore long after master and steed were dust. The "Castle" still stands about two and a half miles south of Morro on a little rise close to the road, iron bars and all. A Swiss family occupies it and a cow yard is close at hand. Alas for romance in a "cow country"!

Franklin Riley owned one hundred sixty acres of land at Morro; and in the winter of 1870-71, Riley and "Cal" Mathers laid out a town. The wharf and warehouse were built and quite a good business resulted; for then small steamers and schooners could enter the bay. Ezra Stocking had a store and was postmaster. July 4, 1870, Morro had a celebration on Toro creek. A. M. Hardie was marshal of the day, Revs. A. N. Spooner and A. P. Hendon took part, L. J. Beckett read the immortal Declaration, J. Grigsby "orated" and Miss Leonora Hazen sang. Two hundred people turned out to the celebration. Growing right along was the Morro country then. During the year ending with May, 1873, fourteen new houses were built in Morro. In 1877 there were two wharves at Morro, extending out to water fourteen feet deep.

Morro now is quite a lively little town. Many summer tourists come each year, and the Atascadero Colony has bought the "Point" and is promising great things at Atascadero Beach. A good-sized tract of land on the bluff facing the bay and Morro Rock has been purchased, and a temporary building has been put up. Here is to be an all-the-year-round resort, Morro Rock Inn. The winters are even finer than the summers at Morro; for the warm, sunny days and sparkling blue ocean are seldom obscured by fog. Town lots are selling off rapidly, and many new houses and a hotel have recently been built. There is truck service for freight between Morro and San Luis Obispo; also stage service by auto for passengers. Mr. Sewell is postmaster. There are two general stores, a church, a two-room schoolhouse, and shops of all sorts; and Morro seems to be coming into her own. No saloons are allowed, and naturally only a good class of people go to "Beautiful Morro by the Sea."

### AVILA

Avila was laid out by the Avila brothers on the San Miguelito ranch granted to their father. A cluster of houses, a store, a post office, a fine new two-room schoolhouse, and several tanks and buildings owned by oil companies comprise the town. There is a pretty little beach at Avila. The ~~oil~~ ~~company~~ ~~is~~ ~~there~~, and some day it may be another San Pedro.

### PORT SAN LUIS

This is not a "town"; but a post office is located here, and there are many oil tanks and little houses hanging to the rocky bluffs. The Pacific Coast Railway's wharf runs far out, and another wharf owned by them is built to load

the many big oil "tankers" that ply up and down the coast and to the "Islands" or Honolulu. Hotel Marre is perched upon a shelf of rock at the landward end of the wharf. As has been said, here is the greatest oil port in the world, and it is a fine harbor for vessels of any size. Warships find here a good anchorage, and if ever a war involving the sea is waged, Port San Luis will be a vantage point, for troops could be landed here most easily. No fortifications defend the harbor. A few miles out on the rocks is the Port San Luis lighthouse and its group of buildings. A pretty little schoolhouse is in a niche of the bluff, and a number of children attend school there.

### San Luis Hot Sulphur Springs

These springs used to be called the oil wells, for it was in drilling for oil that a great flow of hot sulphur water was obtained. Gas is abundant and burns all the time over the main well. The springs are about a mile and a half this side of Avila, in a pretty, secluded glade beside San Luis creek. There are a hotel, cottages, a hall, bath house and plunge, all very good. Great sycamores and oaks grow about. The climate is lovely—soft, warm, and balmy. The ozone from the near-by ocean soothes the nerves, and the mountains shut out all harsh winds. A mile and a half distant there is surf bathing. This is a popular resort, and many ills are cured here.

### POZO

About eighteen miles southeast of Santa Margarita is the village of Pozo (a deep depression, or "cup"), surrounded by mountains more or less distant. It has a schoolhouse, a store, a blacksmith shop, a sort of hotel, a saloon and a hall. The Salinas river is near by, and a rich fertile country surrounds it. This vicinity used to be called San Jose Valley. The situation is beautiful and the climate very fine, especially for those inclined to lung trouble. It is on the stage line to Simmler and La Panza, and has daily mail. The post office is in MacNeil's store.

### SHANDON

Shandon town site was surveyed and the map filed in the Recorder's office in July, 1890. "Sunset" was the name Mr. Charles E. Tobey selected for the new town; but when this was submitted to the postal authorities, they refused it, as there was already a post office of that name. "Shandon Bells," a story published in Harper's in 1882-83, was a great favorite with Dr. John Hughes; so he suggested "Shandon" for the name of the new town. This was officially accepted in 1891, and the name was placed on the map.

The West Coast Land Co. laid out the town and tried to "boom" it after their successful operations at Templeton. Years before that, all the land now known as the Shandon country had been taken up in government claims. It comprises the territory about the junction of the Cholame, San Juan and Estrella rivers. Wheat is the staple product, and each season, especially in the good years, long trains of mules and horses haul the grain to Paso Robles warehouses. Two wagons, sometimes three, are chained together, and from eight to sixteen mules or horses pull the heavy load. It takes the best part of three days to make the round trip to and from the farthest ranches. Men and teams are covered with sweat and gray with dust. Tinkling bells are worn by the leaders to warn others on the short turns and steep grades. The earliest settlers used to get mail from the Cholame post

office. The men would take turns bringing the mail for the neighborhood. On a quarter section about three miles southwest of what is now Shandon, Rudolph Mayer had opened a saloon, and thinking it would be a good stroke of business, he decided to try to get a post office also. He circulated a petition and obtained the necessary signatures, with the understanding, however, that the petitioners should have a say about the name and location of the new post office. Mayer, however, unadvised, named the office Starkey, for a friend of his, and located it in the saloon. Starkey had tried to jump a claim; so it is needless to say neither name nor location was popular. But it served the purpose and was better than going to Cholame for mail. As this new office had not been included in the mail route, Mayer had to meet the mail stage on the Paso Robles road and carry his mail bag three miles to the delivery station. Soon after Mayer got the office established in its saloon home, C. J. Shaw started a store on the quarter section owned by M. P. Hansen and adjoining the old Spring schoolhouse, the first store in the valley. Mr. Shaw was a quaint little old gentleman, born in London, Canada, of English descent, who came to this country when only seventeen years old. Well educated, quite literary, a devout Episcopalian, he always worked in the church at Shandon, doing much for the uplift of the community. He was exceedingly polite and affable in manner, and the people insisted upon making him postmaster and moving the office to his store. Mr. Shaw continued to be postmaster until his death in May, 1913. Before coming to Shandon he had lived many years at Santa Barbara, but his body was sent back to London, Canada, for burial. Cliff Barnes succeeded Mr. Shaw as postmaster for a short time; then C. U. Margetts received the appointment, and still holds it. When the town of Shandon was laid out, Mr. Shaw moved the office over there, and Starkey became Shandon.

Mr. Worden put up the Shandon Hotel, the first building in the new town, and ran it until quite recently, when he turned the hotel over to his son, Guy T. Worden. Among the pioneer merchants were D. T. Smouse, Baxter Grainger and W. R. Post. The Methodists built the church, but it has always been used as a union church.

A fine class of people settled in and about Shandon. Orchards were early set out and now bear fine fruit. A few artesian wells have been sunk, and more probably could be. Considerable alfalfa is raised. The climate, though hot at times during the summer months, is exceedingly salubrious. The old Spring schoolhouse is now a thing of the past; for in 1915 a fine new modern and well-equipped building was completed, and two teachers are employed. Mrs. Clara T. Paulding taught the Spring school when she homesteaded a quarter section there many years ago. The writer has heard her describe the moon-white nights when the air was sweet with the scent of the dainty little gillias that covered the hillsides.

## CHAPTER XV

### Presidential Visits, and the G. A. R.

#### President McKinley's Visit

On May 11, 1901, President McKinley, on his trip to the Pacific Coast, paid San Luis Obispo a visit. The G. A. R. of the county had charge of the arrangements, and were ably assisted by all patriotic citizens. F. E. Darke took an active part in the work of the committee. The Ramona Hotel's wide veranda was chosen for the speaker's stand, and it was decorated with flags and flowers. Seats were reserved for all members of the G. A. R. and Women's Relief Corps, and the President seemed pleased at the attention shown by all his old comrades in arms. His special train drew in from Los Angeles, and from the station to the hotel he was cheered and showered with flowers. Never shall we who saw him that day forget the glory of his countenance. A great soul shone from his eyes and seemed to radiate light. Mrs. McKinley was with him—so ill that all his later engagements, save two or three, were canceled. After his address he quietly slipped from the hotel to his train, which had been run up to the Ramona Hotel station, boarded it and was at once beside his beloved wife. There was the usual rush to say good-bye; and as the train pulled out, the President appeared on the rear platform smiling and waving his hand. Thus we saw the last of him, on May 11; for on September 6 of that year an assassin shot President McKinley at Buffalo, N. Y. September 14 news of his death plunged the nation into mourning. Memorial services were held for him in San Luis Obispo and in other towns in the county.

#### President Roosevelt's Visit

On May 9, 1903, we were again honored by a visit from the nation's chief executive. President Roosevelt was making a campaign tour of the Pacific Coast. He had made fame with his Rough Riders, cowboy friends of his from Texas and elsewhere, in the Spanish-American War. He had risen from the governor's chair in the Empire State to Vice-President of the United States; and now, through the act of an assassin's hand, the responsibilities of the nation's chief executive had fallen upon him. "Teddy" was a very popular man, and the population turned out to do him honor. As his special train pulled into the depot, the band played; but the memory of September 6, 1901, was still fresh in the minds of all, and no one cheered as the secret-service men, who had preceded him, swung onto his carriage and the horses were put to a swift trot down Osos street. There was a tense silence until one little woman sprang to the curb, waved her arm and cried, "Hurrah for Roosevelt! Three cheers for Roosevelt!" Then the President stood straight up in his carriage, doffed his hat, showed his teeth in a royal smile, and bowed low to the lady from the Huasna hills. That started it, and Roosevelt got plenty of cheers thereafter.

A stand had been erected in the Mitchell block, covered with pepper boughs and flags, and there again the G. A. R. were seated upon the platform. We could not be proud of our city park—we had none—so borrowed the Mitchell block; but Roosevelt faced the mountains, bathed in their glowing



colors; his face was fanned by the western breeze, and the fragrance of the pepper boughs and roses was distilled about him. He told us our duty, and drove it all home with both fists. Also he smiled; and if McKinley's face is remembered as that of a saint and martyr, Theodore Roosevelt's will always remind us of a big, strong man, full of zeal and purpose, afraid of nothing, bound for high places and sure to reach them.

### G. A. R. of San Luis Obispo County

Colonel Harper Post No. 126, G. A. R., was instituted at Arroyo Grande, June 25, 1880. Its roster contains the following names:

Henry Bakeman, Co. F, 2nd Iowa Infantry; James G. Stevenson, Co. C, 74th Ohio Infantry; John S. Rice, Co. F, 10th Minnesota Infantry; W. L. Carman, Co. A, 183rd Ohio Infantry; Thomas E. Hodges, Co. A, 45th Missouri Infantry; Edward S. Shaw, Co. B, 74th Illinois Infantry; Sergeant Nathan J. Keown, Co. B, 21st Missouri Infantry; John W. Spears, Co. M, 3rd New York Cavalry; James Eddy, Co. E, 57th Illinois Infantry; Sergeant K. M. Jersey, Co. K, 2nd California Infantry; Thomas Whiteley, Co. G, 4th Massachusetts Infantry; H. A. Sperry; C. L. Turner, Co. D, 2nd U. S. Infantry; S. H. Abbott, Co. E, 3rd Michigan Artillery; Thomas J. Forkner, Co. I, 15th Kansas Cavalry; B. C. Ide, Co. C, 24th Michigan Infantry; Granville Shinn, Co. C, 118th Illinois Infantry; A. L. Turner, Co. D, 2nd U. S. Infantry; H. H. Adams, Co. K, 12th Massachusetts Infantry; Isaac Miller, Co. D, 24th Iowa Infantry; William Quimby, Co. B, 188th New York Infantry; Allen Colton, Co. B, 6th Michigan Infantry; William J. Harr, Co. H, 1st New York Artillery; E. L. Warner, Co. A, 193rd New York Infantry; B. F. Hilliker, Co. A, 8th Wisconsin Infantry; Jefferson Wright, Co. A, 55th Ohio Infantry; Fred Seaman, Co. E, 2nd California Infantry; R. Dodge, Co. B, 47th Michigan Infantry; Edmond Waterman; William Lane, Co. C, 24th Iowa Infantry; James Ferguson, 12th Illinois Regulars; Erastus Fouch, Co. I, 75th Ohio Infantry; Elisha J. Lucas, Co. F, 10th Wisconsin Infantry; Thomas J. Jinks, Co. F, 12th Kansas Infantry; Henry E. Hoskins, Co. K, 2nd California Cavalry; George Van Order, Co. D, 143rd New York Infantry; Charles Putnam, 1st Oregon Infantry; J. N. Moses, Co. E, 11th Ohio Cavalry; John C. Lyon, Co. A, 1st Ohio Cavalry; John Finch, Co. L, 9th Minnesota Infantry; Paul Reil, Co. D, 6th U. S. Infantry; George A. John, Co. H, 73rd Indiana Infantry; J. B. Eakman, Co. E, 11th Pennsylvania Infantry; Ray S. Potter, Co. D, 8th Minnesota Infantry; Thomas H. Keown, Co. F, 12th Missouri Infantry; C. C. Arlle, Co. D, 107th Ohio Infantry; C. H. Lockwood, Navy; A. Adams, Co. D, 12th Maine Infantry; H. Bouchard, Co. A, 156th Illinois Infantry; Salathiel Wheeler, Co. K, 27th Ohio; James A. Dowell, Co. M, 16th Kansas Cavalry; Charles N. Davis, Co. I, 66th Ohio Infantry; John Alcott, Co. G, 16th Wisconsin Infantry; Francis X. Belot, Co. K, 4th Minnesota Infantry; Otis M. Keeseey, Co. D, 98th Ohio Infantry; Timothy Munger, Co. C, 44th Ohio Infantry; F. R. Baumgartner, Co. D, 144th Ohio Infantry; S. D. Harding, Co. I, 73rd Indiana Infantry; W. H. Hartwell, Co. I, 9th New Hampshire Infantry; C. E. Bristol, Co. D, 87th Ohio Infantry; Maurice Denham, Co. A, 12th Wisconsin Infantry; S. H. Coomes, Co. C, 27th Illinois Infantry; Sylvester Ullom, Co. B, 25th Ohio Infantry; W. W. Swain, Co. A, 1st Wisconsin Infantry; L. Wood, Co. I, 91st Indiana Infantry; V. S. Runnels, Co. D, 136th Ohio Infantry; Bradford Johnson, Co. I, 3rd

New York Infantry; William H. Owen, Co. G, 42nd Missouri Infantry; Joseph S. Brewer, Co. G, 42nd New Jersey Infantry; Adam Bair, Co. D, 86th Ohio Infantry; Joseph M. Loveland, Co. H, 32nd Iowa Infantry; C. C. Martin, Co. G, 68th Illinois Infantry; John M. Gorham, Co. K, 7th Missouri Cavalry; Joseph Quinn, Co. F, 12th Missouri Cavalry; Herman Beyer, Co. E, 8th N. Y. Infantry; William Brassfield, Co. M, 11th Illinois Cavalry.

This shows the names of seventy-six veterans who have belonged to the Colonel Harper Post. Of these, sixteen were from Ohio, eight from Illinois, seven from New York, six from Missouri, five from Wisconsin, four from Minnesota, four from Michigan, four from Iowa, three from Indiana, three from Kansas, three from California, three from the U. S. Regulars, two from Massachusetts, one from Maine, one from New Hampshire, one from New Jersey, one from Pennsylvania, and one from Oregon. Sergeant Nathan J. Keown, Co. B, 21st Missouri, was a charter member and father of Thomas H. Keown, who served in Co. F, 12th Missouri. Father and son fought shoulder to shoulder to preserve intact their country and ours. Could we do less than give them brief notice in our history? Only a few old and bent gray-haired men survive of the seventy-six members of the post. Paul Reil, until his last Memorial Day, in spite of his ninety-one years, proudly carried the colors at the head of the little line of veterans who each year hold memorial services at Arroyo Grande. It was a sight to stir the heart to look upon this old man straighten his bent back, proudly lift his face and gaze upon Old Glory, then "fall in" and march the mile or more from headquarters to the "bivouac of the dead." In homage we lift our hats and bow our heads in the presence of all members of the Grand Army of the Republic.

The charter members of Colonel Harper Post were Henry Bateman, James G. Stevenson, John S. Rice, W. S. Carman, Thomas S. Rodgers, Nathan J. Keown, James S. Eddy, T. W. Spears, R. N. Jersey and Stewart Shaw. This post was instituted June 25, 1880.

Fred Steele Post No. 70, G. A. R., named for Major General Fred Steele, a brother of E. W. and George Steele, was first instituted probably in the late seventies, but the fire that destroyed the Andrews Hotel and other buildings destroyed the first charter, and no exact date for the organization of the first Fred Steele Post is available. The second post, bearing the same name as the first one, Department of California and Nevada, was organized July 1, 1886, with fourteen charter members, viz.: G. B. Staniford, R. B. Treat, J. E. Walker, W. G. Olmstead, George B. Woods, Charles Martin, N. R. Johnson, J. B. Seaton, Frank R. Dart, Frank Cannels, W. F. Canon, Levi Rackliffe, Frederick E. Darke, John Hamlin. About one hundred fifty veterans have at various times belonged to this post. At present there are only fifteen, for death is rapidly thinning their ranks. On January 11, 1917, James M. Brown answered the last roll call. The present officers are: David Thaler, commander; R. H. Seeber, senior vice; Charles Martin, junior vice; F. E. Darke, chaplain; S. L. Nichols, adjutant; B. F. Eastman, officer of the day; Martin Polin, inside guard; David Hough, outside guard. The other members are Peter Banks, Blanchard Kirchner, Thomas Preston, R. N. Truesdale, Comrade Shindler and J. K. Truesdale. This post owns a plot of ground in the Odd Fellows cemetery at San Luis Obispo, where many old soldiers are buried. There is a soldiers' monument on the plot, and an old naval cannon, on its carriage, presented to the post through

the efforts of Senator George Perkins. Each year Memorial services are conducted there under the auspices of the post. There used to be a goodly number of the Boys in Blue marching to martial music as the procession moved to this one of God's acres. Now only a dozen or so white-haired men ride in automobiles to Memorial services, and the flags above the mounds are many.

Too much honor cannot be shown this remnant of the gallant Union Army, and we are proud to embody in our history this brief review of Fred Steele Post No. 70 and Colonel Harper Post No. 126 of San Luis Obispo county.

A very efficient Woman's Relief Corps is connected with each of these posts. The one at Arroyo Grande was organized in 1883 with eighteen charter members, viz.: Eliza Bakeman, Hattie F. Turner, Lucy S. Spears, Harriet B. Abbott, Martha Eldridge, Hattie Lewis, Rilla Young, Mahelda Keown, Maira F. Peterson, Mary F. Meyers, Sallie F. Findley, Georgia Eddy, Carrie Barker, Annie Shinn, Sarah Love, Nellie G. Abbott, Rosa Love, Missouri Eldridge.

The Fred Steele Relief Corps was instituted July 9, 1910, with forty charter members. The roll call increased to seventy-eight, but has now dropped to twenty-six in good standing. Two other corps had been organized here in earlier years, but had ceased to be when the present corps was organized. This one takes an active part in charitable work and provides several socials each year for members of the G. A. R. This last year it helped pay the taxes on the soldiers' burial plot in San Luis Obispo, sent money to the Evergreen Home for old ladies, and assisted other worthy objects. The past presidents are Mrs. Leonora Hardy, Mrs. Eastman, Mrs. Callie M. John, Mrs. Ethel Long, Mrs. Kitty Turney. Mrs. Corra Eastman is now president; Cora Evans, senior vice; Lily Smith, junior vice; Rachel Martin, chaplain; Charlotte Miller, treasurer; Mrs. Annie Berry, secretary; Lena Spence, conductor; Sadie Smith, guard; Mrs. Eastman, patriotic instructor; Gertie Tilsley, press correspondent; Jennette Taylor, assistant conductor; Kitty Turney, assistant guard; Mrs. Long, Catherine Taylor, Rosana Taylor and Ida Daugherty, color bearers.

It has already been stated that Major General Steele was a brother of E. W. and George Steele, both very prominent pioneer men of the county; so when a post was to be organized at San Luis Obispo it seemed fitting to name it for their illustrious brother. He was graduated from West Point in 1843, served in the Mexican War and through the Civil War, and was with his regiment at the battle of Vicksburg and with Sherman in his march to the sea. In 1912 a life-size bronze statue of Major General Steele was set up in Vicksburg National Park. It was erected to his memory by his niece and other members of the Proctor family. In recognition of the honor shown their brother, the Steele brothers presented the post with a fine silk flag.

## CHAPTER XVI

**A Celebrated Land Case, and Old County Documents**

When in 1851 a land commission was established to settle the titles to the Spanish land grants, many of the Spanish and Mexican grantees scorned the "Gringo law," believing they could not be ousted from their lands. Those who complied fully with the law obtained patents, but those who refused became involved later in expensive litigation. Sometimes they lost the land entirely. Often they spent the price of it in lawsuits. As a sample case in this county we give the story of the Cuesta rancho.

In 1841, Mariano Bonilla petitioned Governor Alvarado to grant him a tract of land which should be known as la Cuesta. He described it quite minutely. It is the land lying in Cuesta cañon extending back along a little stream, the stream flowing into San Luis creek. The new city reservoir is near this stream, and the land is perhaps better known now as the Goldtree ranch. Bonilla's petition was referred to the priest in charge of the Mission, as la Cuesta was a part of the old Mission lands. The priest reported favorably, and Governor Alvarado granted the land. April 16, 1842, Manuel Jimeno, member of the departmental junta, made an informal grant of the land, specifying that within one year a house be built and occupied, and that not over six or seven cows and horses, sufficient for family use, be pastured on the grazing lands which belonged to the Mission. The land granted Bonilla was to be for agricultural use and an orchard. Also, he was not to "divert or diminish" the water supply of San Luis creek, which furnished water for the Mission. He might fence it, but the road must not be enclosed.

March 14, 1846, judicial possession was given Bonilla by the alcalde of San Luis Obispo, Jose de Jesus Pico, who directed two plainsmen, Don Manuel Garcia and Don Vicente Bonilla, in default of a regular surveyor, to make a cord one hundred Castilian varas long and, "in company with witnesses and spectators," measure off the land. They promised to do it "fair and justly." The party proceeded to La Cañada Honda, on the range of mountains, and, beginning there, measured off the land, setting suitable marks to indicate the bounds. After the land was legally surveyed by the plainsmen with their "cordel," Bonilla, to show that he was now sole "lord and owner," pulled up herbs and scattered them about; also he "hurled stones" over his domain. The official witnesses were Vicente Garcia and Jose Ortega. Bonilla planted an orchard, built a house, which he lived in, and also put up a "molino," or grist-mill, and ground wheat for all who would bring it. This old mill, the first one at San Luis Obispo, is mentioned elsewhere.

March 22, 1869, Bonilla sold to P. W. Murphy all his land, save the portion already sold to Sumner. Meantime a United States Government survey had been made; and Bonilla having refused to comply with "Gringo law," his land was surveyed with the rest and the sixteenth and thirty-sixth sections declared school lands. February 3, 1871, the United States Land Office issued to Leonardo Lopez a patent covering Bonilla's land, which Lopez got as school land or government land, and transferred to Isaac and Nathan Goldtree, who proceeded to take possession. Beyond question, this was an underhanded trick. Probably Goldtree instigated Lopez to take the land and

furnished the funds, though this is only a supposition. Had Bonilla complied with the Mexican law, and later the "Gringo" law, he would have been protected, and so would Murphy; but now there was trouble. March 7, 1872, Murphy filed complaint for the recovery of his land and asked that defendant, Goldtree Bros., pay him \$640 rent per year since the time they "forcibly, and without complainant's consent," took possession of la Cuesta. May 6, 1873, the answer was filed; and the suit was tried at the May term of court, 1874, without a jury. Walter Murray represented the defendants; C. W. Dana was clerk. The Goldtrees were given judgment, and Murphy had to pay costs of suit.

When the suit was instituted, all the old records had to be hunted up. As they were recorded in Spanish, they were translated into English. Bonilla's petition, the priest's opinion and Alvarado's consent to it were found in the old custom-house at Monterey. As often as this land changes hands, the Bonilla heirs put in a claim for recognition and compensation, but so far to no avail. These old documents are so interesting that we give them in full, with peculiarities of style and punctuation retained.

#### Copy of Old Documents Found in County Clerk's Office

This cause came on to be tried at the May Term of this Court, 1874, and by consent of parties was tried to the Court without a Jury. The Court having heard the testimony and argument of Counsel now finds the facts to be:

#### I

On the 4th day of January, 1841, Jose Mariano Bonilla, a Mexican Citizen, and a resident of California, addressed to Juan B. Alvarado then Governor of California, the following petition:

(Translation)

"To His Excellency the Governor—

I, Mariano Bonilla, a native of the Department of Mexico and a resident of the Ex Mission of San Miguel before your Excellency respectfully and in the form of law, represent: That in the Cañada known by the name of San Luis Obispo, there is a small plain, on which, with industry and labor, an orchard might be planted and mill built without disturbing the course of the water, and since the Mission of San Luis makes no use of said place, and does not need the same, and since the temperature of that place is very beneficial to my health, I ask your Excellency to be pleased to grant me in said place, a solar of three hundred varas square, and to permit me to use the water of the Arroyo which runs to San Luis Obispo, without disturbing the course of the same or diminishing its quantity. I will place thereon a mill, plant an orchard and build a house, all of which will be for the public benefit. The said place is well known, however, I furnish a map for your better information.

Wherefore, I pray your Excellency to be pleased to grant my petition, in which I will receive favor.

San Miguel January 4th 1841.

J. Mariano Bonilla."

On the receipt of this petition, which was accompanied by a *diseño* showing the location of the land asked for, the Governor referred the same

for information to the Father Minister of the Mission of San Luis Obispo, as follows:

(Translation)

"Monterey, January 16th 1841.

Let the person in charge of San Luis Obispo report on the foregoing petition after consulting with the Revd Father Minister as to whether or not the land petitioned for may be granted without prejudice to the Community. Alvarado."

Thereupon Father Ramon Abella, the Priest in charge of the Mission of San Luis Obispo, made to the Governor the following report:

"In relation to the foregoing petition dated on the 16th day of January 1841, I say That I am of the opinion, that the said place may be granted for the uses set forth, but on condition, that the grantee, shall not put thereon more than six or eight cows for supplying the family with milk and some horses for his use, otherwise the establishment of San Luis Obispo cannot be maintained, since this place being surrounded by hills, it is a convenient place for the milch cows of the Establishment and the horses which are necessary for the use of the same, the greater part of which are kept there.

God preserve you many years.

San Luis Obispo, February 1st 1841.

Fr Ramon Abella."

This report was concurred in by Vicente Canet, the person having charge of the Mission establishment, who endorsed said report as follows:

(Translation)

"I agree in the above report, and not knowing how to write, I make the sign of the cross date as above

Vicente Canet"

On the 14th day of April, 1842, Governor Alvarado made the following decree:

(Translation)

"Monterey April 14th 1842

In view of the petition with which these proceedings commence, the report of the Father Minister, and of the Majordomo of San Luis Obispo, with all other matters necessary to be considered in conformity with the laws and regulations on the subject, I declare Don Mariano Bonilla owner in property of one half a square league, from the Arroyo of the Encino towards the Cuesta of Santa Margarita as far as the mouth of the Cañada on the principal road from San Luis Obispo. Let the corresponding title issue; Let registry be made thereof in the respective book, and let the same be delivered to the interested party for his security and let this expediente be directed to the Most Excellent Departmental Junta for its approval. His Excellency, Señor Don Juan B. Alvarado, thus ordered decreed and signed."

As another sample of old-time transactions, we give the following: Don Jose de Jesus Pico goes to Santa Barbara shopping. Perhaps the Dona goes along. From the items one is almost sure she did. This old account was found in the office of the county clerk recently. The account is with Thomp-

son's store. The debit items are: 1 wash basin, \$2.00; three striped shirts, \$7.40; 3 red shirts, \$10.40; 1 doz. tin plates, \$5.00; 6 pieces white dimity, \$18.00; 1 piece blue flannel, \$17.00; ½ doz. plates, \$4.40; 4 tin pots, \$3.00; 2 pieces white sheeting, \$36.00; 3 muslin dresses, \$24.00; 6 axes and handles, \$21.00. Credit items: 1 horse, \$30.00; hides, \$100.00; 6 bags tallow, \$58.50; beef to other expedition, \$10.00.

## CHAPTER XVII

### A Chapter of Political History, and Items from the Tribune

It is not our purpose to go minutely into the political history of San Luis Obispo County, but rather to touch upon the more important political events that have had considerable influence on its general history. Since the settlement of the county, every political party, new and old, has found adherents among the growing populace. The first polling place was at San Luis Obispo.

On August 1, 1849, the first election in the county was held at San Luis Obispo to choose delegates to help draft the state constitution, and to elect local officials. Henry A. Tefft and Jose M. Covarrubias were elected delegates to the state convention, John M. Price and Esteban Quintana were elected alcaldes, and Joaquin Estrada, regidor. This election was called by General Riley, acting governor. When the constitution was voted upon and the election for governor was held, forty-five votes were cast, all for W. S. Sherwood.

California as a state in those days was strongly Democratic; but in our county the Whig doctrine was popular among the Spanish, a pastoral people. In 1851, party lines were drawn and San Luis Obispo County began to vote the Whig ticket. In November, 1851, Antonio de la Guerra of Santa Barbara was elected state senator from this district, and Mariano Pacheco, assemblyman. In 1852 California for the first time voted at a presidential election. Our county cast one hundred twelve votes for Gen. Winfield Scott, Whig, and eleven votes for Franklin Pierce, Democrat. In 1853 the county vote was, for governor: William Waldo, Whig, one hundred thirty-seven; Bigler, Democrat, nine. In 1854 the county cast an almost solid vote for George W. Bowie, Whig candidate for Congress. That year William J. Graves was elected to the assembly. In 1855 the county cast one hundred eighteen votes for Bigler, Democratic nominee for governor, and forty-five votes for J. Neely Johnson, running on the new American party ticket, whom the state elected. The vote in San Luis Obispo was the smallest county vote cast in the state. Manuel Castro was sent to the assembly from San Luis Obispo County.

In 1856 a party new to the State of California had to be reckoned with; this was the Republican party, strong in the Eastern and Northern states, but new here. It was state policy to avoid sectional disputes, and the first speakers of this party in California met with much abuse, mobbing being frequently resorted to. The first Republican state convention met at Sacramento on April 30, 1856, attended by representatives from thirteen counties. When the presidential election of 1856 was held, San Luis Obispo cast one hundred seven votes for John C. Fremont, Republican nominee. Our county

in those days seemed always to vote on the losing side. In 1857 Romualdo Pacheco of San Luis Obispo was elected to the state senate and Henry M. Osgood was sent to the assembly. In 1858 Walter Murray was elected assemblyman. Up to August 3, 1859, all county voting had been at the county-seat, but now the supervisors divided the county into precincts as follows, viz.: San Miguel, Paso Robles, Estrella, San Luis Obispo, Costa and Arroyo Grande. The first judges, inspectors and places of election were Estrella: Alfred Smith, inspector; James Wayland and William James, judges; place, Smith's house. San Miguel: B. Palmer, inspector; M. G. Noble and William McCrutchin, judges; place, San Miguel House. Paso Robles: G. Cruthers, inspector; B. J. Jones and J. Pruett, judges; place, Paso Robles House. Costa: C. Mathers, inspector; place, Santa Rosa House. San Luis Obispo: F. Hillard, inspector; B. Lascano and J. Bunce, judges; place, county courthouse. Arroyo Grande: F. Z. Branch, inspector; C. Dana and L. Martin, judges; place, F. Z. Branch's house.

In 1859 San Luis Obispo County cast two hundred eighty-four votes for Milton S. Latham, Democrat, for governor; later, January 9, 1860, Latham was elected United States Senator by the legislature and Lieutenant Governor John G. Downey became governor. Horace Greeley visited California on a campaign trip in 1859. On one occasion, the historic old stage driver with whom he was riding on a wild drive yelled to him: "Keep your seat, Horace; I'll get you there on time!"—and the mud flew.

In 1860 the first national presidential convention to meet in Chicago convened and nominated Abraham Lincoln on the Republican ticket. The doctrines of both great parties were fully discussed. Great things were at stake; war loomed on the horizon, and San Luis Obispo County became stirred, as did the whole country. At the election held November 7, 1860, the vote of the county was: Lincoln, one hundred forty-eight; Breckinridge, one hundred fifty-five; Douglas, one hundred twenty; Bell, none. Charles H. Johnson received one hundred fifty-six votes for assemblyman, and William L. Beebee, one hundred fifty-two. The state for the first time cast a plurality vote for a Republican president, Lincoln's vote being 38,734.

The state election of 1861 was a hard-fought battle, ending in the election of Leland Stanford, Republican, for governor. In this county Stanford received one hundred seventy-six votes, and McConnell, the Democratic nominee, two hundred votes. Romualdo Pacheco was elected Senator. C. W. Dana, representing San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties, was sent to the assembly. In 1863 the county gave a Republican majority to F. F. Low, two hundred sixty votes against two hundred nineteen cast for J. G. Downey, Democratic nominee for governor. In 1864 San Luis Obispo County cast two hundred fifty-nine votes for Lincoln, against one hundred forty-nine for McClellan. In 1865 P. W. Murphy was elected to the state senate. He was a Democrat, but having friends in both parties, won the election. In 1867 the state went Democratic, but this county came out decidedly Republican.

In 1869 the county seemed to "turn over," as most of the county officers elected ran on the Democratic ticket. In 1871 it went Democratic on the vote for governor, but was about evenly divided on the county officers chosen. In 1872 the county cast four hundred fifty-five votes for Grant and three hundred twelve for Greeley. In 1873 the first Republican county



convention was held. A resolution was passed favoring re-election to office as a reward for faithful service. In 1875 the county went Democratic. In 1876 the total number of votes cast in the county was 1,736, Tilden receiving 944, Hayes 772. In 1877 P. W. Murphy, Democrat, was elected state senator, and L. M. Warden, Democrat, assemblyman, with 1,028 votes. In 1879 our county cast 1,038 votes for, and six hundred sixty against, the new constitution. There were many parties in the field, and in some cases two or more parties would unite on a candidate. Warren Chase was elected senator by the Workingmen's and New Constitution parties. H. Y. Stanley was chosen assemblyman on the Union ticket. In 1880 the county went Republican, casting eight hundred twenty-eight votes for Garfield. In 1882 there were eighteen election precincts in the county. In that year the first official mention is made of a Prohibition vote. Forty-five votes were cast in the county for McDonald, Prohibition nominee for governor of the state. Some strides have been taken by prohibition since.

In 1883 the state was divided into six Congressional districts, the sixth containing San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, San Benito, Los Angeles, Ventura, San Bernardino, San Diego, Kern, Tulare, Fresno, Inyo, Mono and Alpine counties, with a population of 127,136 and 22,860 voters—men over twenty-one years of age. In 1882 Judge Steele had been declared elected state senator on the Republican ticket; but in the beginning of 1883, Brooks, the Democratic candidate, contested the election, and the result was thus expressed by Steele in a telegram to a friend: "Sacramento, Cal., Feb. 21, 1883. The railroad got me. Brooks is seated. Steele."

About 1873 the farmers of the county began to organize "Granges," the members being known as Patrons of Husbandry. The first Grange in the county was organized at Cambria, No. 25; and during the same year another was instituted at Arroyo Grande with twenty-three charter members. Other Granges were organized at San Luis Obispo, Old Creek, and Morro; and one, Confidence Grange, was located, the writer thinks, in Green Valley. We find these Granges protesting, March 10, 1874, in a resolution sent to the representative in the assembly, against a bill pending "To build and equip a railroad from the Bay of San Luis Obispo to Santa Maria valley." "We believe said bill unjustly discriminates in favor of said company and against this and Santa Barbara counties; we believe it would create an oppressive monopoly and we request that bill be amended so as to fix similar rates of charge as all other railroads now being built or hereafter to be built in this county for moving freight and passengers." Signed, William Jackson, Master, and E. L. Reed, Secretary. The Grange, and later the Farmers' Alliance, became factors to be reckoned with in county politics.

The "wet or dry" campaigns of these last few years were presaged, and the seed sown, when the "Order of Good Samaritans" was instituted in the county. The first lodge of this order was organized at Morro, November 21, 1878. Then followed one on the Los Osos in May, 1879; and Garden Street Lodge of San Luis Obispo was organized May 3, 1879. A strong lodge of this order was organized and built a hall in Arroyo Grande. These, with the Sons of Temperance and the Good Templars, did valiant work along temperance lines. Prohibition has now become a vital political issue.

From the account thus far given, may be gathered some idea of the political situation from the first thirty years of the existence of our county.

The two powerful parties have been the Democrats and the Republicans. Other parties have usually, after a try-out alone, voted with one or the other, compromising on certain candidates. As between the two main parties, for many years it was pretty safe to run on the Republican ticket in San Luis Obispo County.

Another question has entered into politics, one not to be downed, and that is, Shall the saloon go? They have gone from Paso Robles, Templeton, Santa Margarita, Arroyo Grande and several other old stands. Paso Robles and Arroyo Grande as incorporated cities voted them out. In the other localities they were closed when, as supervisorial districts, the people voted them dry. As a result of a vote taken in the county in 1907, the saloons were closed for about three months, but the saloon men contested the election on some technicality, and in July of that year the saloons were reopened. The Wylie local option law has been taken advantage of at other times. Several hard-fought anti-saloon elections have been held in the city of San Luis Obispo, each time coming a little closer towards winning, but so far the saloons have won. The last of these elections was held early in 1916. There is a large foreign-born element predominating, Swiss and Portuguese; and these, men and women alike, usually favor the saloons.

In 1890 a movement calling itself the Farmers' Alliance became prominent. E. S. Rigdon took an active part in organizing these bodies. At several elections the Farmers' Alliance people were able to hold the balance of power, and the Democrats and Republicans each sought to get the Alliance vote. In 1892 E. A. Spangenberg, an Alliance man, ran for auditor, but was defeated. In 1894 he again ran, this time to win, and held the office for twelve years. The Alliance became identified with the Populist party, and they were able to elect several men. J. K. Burnett was sent to the assembly on that ticket. A. E. Campbell was sent to the state senate by the Democrats, and Warren M. John, a popular young Republican, was sent to the assembly for two or three terms. E. S. Rigdon is the present state senator from this district, and C. W. Green is assemblyman, both Republicans.

"Wet or dry" has been the greatest issue at most of the county elections for the last few years. The law that admitted supervisorial districts to vote for or against saloons resulted in the first district, Cliff supervisor, voting "dry" in 1911. This district comprises the northeastern part of the county, in which San Miguel, Shandon, Creston and Cholame are situated. In 1913 the fifth district voted dry. This closed saloons in Templeton, Santa Margarita, and Pozo, and shut up a few roadside deadfalls. Cambria, Cayucos, Avila, Pismo, Edna, Oceano, Nipomo, and San Luis Obispo still harbor saloons, but the "wet or dry" question comes up at every state and county election in some shape. If it's nothing else, it is an amendment, or three or four, to the state laws. The strongest feeling prevails on both sides, but true it is that every party out for votes is anxious to conciliate the "dry" vote, and "wet or dry" has about as much significance now as "slavery or no slavery" had in 1860, and certainly bears a wider relation to humanity, as it affects all men, white or black.

#### Items of Interest Taken from the Files of the Tribune

Saturday, August 7, 1869, the first issue of the Tribune prints the Republican ticket and other political news. Delegates to state convention: Walter

Murray, H. B. Jones, W. L. Beebee. To district convention, J. C. McCollum, George Steele, Ira Van Gordon, Jose M. Munoz, James Lynch. Republican county officers: C. M. Dana, clerk; O. K. Smith, assessor; J. M. Munoz, sheriff; John Bains, treasurer; J. C. McCollum, coroner; A. L. Cervantes, surveyor; Jose Cantua, administrator. Supervisors, A. M. Hardie, J. M. Price, Thomas Dickinson. Constables: J. G. Kester, George Davis of San Simeon; J. J. Schiefferly, Zenobio Pico, Rafael Huera, San Luis Obispo; Pablo Majica, Paso Robles. Justices of the peace: William Leffingwell, R. S. Brown, of San Simeon; J. J. Findley, J. J. Simmler, of San Luis Obispo; Ed Lester and J. R. Smith for Salinas valley. Central committee, C. L. Reed, C. Mathers, George Stone, A. M. Hardie, J. F. Dana, B. Lazcano, W. Murray, William Jackson, J. Findley, F. Branch, George Steele, James Lynch, William Ogden.

The first editorial says: "Our politics will be in accord with the party of the Union, that party to which under Providence we owe the preservation of the Republic through five years of war succeeded by three more of political chaos. We seek peace rather than strife."

October 4, 1869.—Teachers' institute met at Cambria September 22, 1869. Present, County Superintendent of Schools J. H. Gooch and nine teachers (all in the county): L. Rackliffe, Miss Campbell, Miss Cox, James Beckett, J. G. Stewart, J. F. Beckett, Miss Balser, Mrs. Morris, F. E. Darke. Among the topics discussed was whispering, and the band played at several sessions. Institute lasted for several days.

October 18, 1869.—The supervisors at their last meeting let the contract for a bridge over the first creek north of the Santa Margarita House to P. Dunn for \$123.00, the county to deliver free the lumber on the banks of the creek. Also \$295.00 is allowed for repairs to courthouse. The iron roof is to be removed and replaced with shingles. (This was the old adobe on Monterey street used as a courthouse.)

December 9, 1869.—At Calaveras river, twenty miles from Stockton, Frank Medina, a storekeeper, and four others were murdered and the bodies found in a gulch 400 yards back of the store, gagged and piled in a heap—Medina, his clerk, two Mexicans and a negro. The store was in great disorder. Some men had reported passing the store early in the day and hearing a great commotion, but supposed it was just a row and passed on without interfering.

Married—In Santa Barbara, February 14, 1870, by Rev. F. G. Williams, Gen. Phineas Banning of Wilmington and Miss Mary Elizabeth Hollister of Santa Barbara.

April 2, 1870.—We lately competed with the Standard for the county printing and advertising, and won it at a fair figure.

April 2, 1870.—Notice. Capt. D. P. Mallah has received notice that the steamer "Pelican" will carry merchandise at reduced rates, \$5 per ton; wool, \$8 per ton. Signed, C. H. Hewitt. Captain Mallah also states that he has reduced the wharfage from \$1.25 to \$1.00.

August 6, 1870. The assessment roll of San Luis Obispo County shows that the total valuation is \$2,108,307.77.

August 2, 1875.—Benjamin Cable, carpenter and builder. Particular attention paid to undertaking. Constantly on hand, zinc-lined coffins of all sizes. A new hearse.

A number of distinguished visitors have been in town this week: Senator Booth, Governor Pacheco, W. W. Dodge, Captain Archie Harloe, port warden of San Francisco, Captain Marcus Harloe, Captain Engalls and Purser True to the steamer "Los Angeles," Don Juan Castro of Piedra Blanca, Alexander Forbes of San Francisco.

The town and principal business houses were lighted with gas this week. The light is very fine, a great improvement on our old oil lamps.

August 28, 1875.—Captain Jack, a Chinaman who kept a stock of goods for sale at his house, was found by two white men, his friends, murdered. These gentlemen hired a man to dig a grave and take the confined body to the burying ground and set an hour when they would come to bury Jack. At the hour named they set out in a buggy for the burial place, but met the grave-digger coming into town. He told them they would find the body lowered into the grave. They went on and filled up the grave, then went for a ride into the country. Returning, they decided to go to Jack's house and put away his goods. They opened the door and there lay Jack in his coffin. Needless to tell how they felt. After an investigation it turned out that a drowned man had been sent up from Port Harford for burial; and whether it was done for a "grave" joke or by mistake, his body had been placed in the grave instead of Jack's body. Today at eleven o'clock the gentlemen will themselves carry Jack to the burying ground, dig a grave and place him safely in it. The gentlemen are Colonel Harrison and Frank Grady.

September 4, 1875.—Tuesday evening the up stage was robbed one mile from Lowe's station and three hundred feet below the foot of the grade. Two trees arch over the road here. Only one man was seen. The Wells-Fargo box contained over \$1,000.

September 11, 1875.—The contract for the new I. O. O. F. hall has been let to R. T. Osgood. It will cost \$8,355.60, and when done will be the most imposing building in town. The material is all to be brought down from San Francisco.

Died—Murray.—At Cosmopolitan Hotel, October 5, 1875, Hon. Walter Murray, aged forty-nine years, one month.

October 7, 1875.—The stage was robbed at the Lost Chance station on the up trip on Tuesday night. A masked man covered the driver and ordered him to throw off the box, which he did. Two more masked men were seen standing back in the shadows. It occurred just where a large tree droops its branches over the road. The sheriff of Monterey county had just got off and was walking a short distance behind the stage. He shot at the robbers and caused them to drop the box, which was speedily replaced. About a mile further on three shots were fired at the sheriff, who had mounted the seat beside the driver.

October 9, 1875.—On the last trip, the steamer "Senator" landed fifty-five passengers for the county. We are now being recognized and are on the map. The stage fare has been reduced to \$15.00 to Los Angeles, and \$10.00 to Santa Barbara.

October 23, 1875.—In this issue is discussed the proposition to build a cross-country road to Bakersfield.

December 4, 1875.—A large vein of coal has been discovered at Cholame valley in Peach Tree township. A company to work it has been formed in

Dr. J. W. Blake and C. L. Weller of San Francisco also are interested. Weller will be the general agent in San Francisco.

January 7, 1876.—Total rainfall to date for the season is 10.40 inches. A. J. Hudson, a rancher on Old creek, visited our office this week and told of a narrow escape from death he and his family had while on a recent trip to San Francisco. Himself, wife and four children were all on the gang plank when some one on the boat tried to pull it in and all of them were thrown into the bay. Mr. Hudson is a good swimmer, and with the aid of others all were rescued from a watery grave.

January 29, 1876.—H. S. Rembaugh, editor of the Tribune, in this issue publishes a whole page describing a seance of Spiritualists at Central City—now Santa Maria—held in the house of Samuel Lockwood. The medium was Mrs. George Smith. She was tied and doubled-tied in a chair. A trumpet was "washed out" by the editor and set big end down on the floor. Franklin Mauk went with Rembaugh; also Mr. and Mrs. John Thornburg, Mr. and Mrs. M. Thornburg, and Mrs. Jessie Thornburg. The lights are ordered out, trumpet sails around in the air and stops at each one in the room, giving messages. Mauk's son through the medium and the trumpet tells his father he is glad he has quit swearing. Rembaugh says that Judge Murray's last words on earth were spoken to him and others, and were, "I will come back and see you." The trumpet floats to Rembaugh, says it's Murray and proceeds to distinctly say, "I am glad to meet you." [Spiritualism was rather a new thing and its "rappings" were held in awe by many.]

July 7, 1885.—A shooting affray on the Estrella near the old adobe church built in 1878. We condense the many items into one. A young man named Sanders was teaching school and said a heading gang of men insulted him and demanded that the headers should apologize to him. The header men had shot-guns with them and had been shooting the rabbits that were very plentiful in the grain fields. As Sanders and his friends carried guns, shots were soon being fired. Two men were killed outright and one left crippled for life. Long trials cost the county large sums of money. Two men were sent to prison but eventually pardoned, one from each side. The shooting resulted not only in needless death but caused a feud on the Estrella that lasted for years.

May 20, 1892.—M. Lewin announces that at his shaving parlors on Higuera street he has fitted up a room especially for ladies, where he will shampoo, curl and trim the hair in the very latest style, using his own famous shampoo mixture.

# HISTORY OF SANTA MARIA VALLEY

By J. H. Haydon

---

## SANTA MARIA

The town of Santa Maria was laid out and surveyed in 1875 by Isaac Fesler, John Thornburg, Isaac Miller and R. D. Cook, comprising the S.E. quarter of the S.E. quarter of section 10, the S.W. quarter of the S.W. quarter of section 11, the N.E. quarter of the N.E. quarter of section 15, and the N.W. quarter of the N.W. quarter of section 14. The blocks were three hundred and fifty feet east and west, and three hundred feet north and south, with streets one hundred feet wide and alleys twelve feet wide extending east and west. Main street and Broadway are one hundred twenty feet wide. Many additions have since been made, and the original beauty marred by streets of irregular width.

As the town was located in the central part of the valley, it was named Central City. A few years later a post office was petitioned for, and as there was already an office of that name in the state, the name of the town and post office was changed to Santa Maria. Very little building was done the first year. A man named Johnston started a small store on the northwest corner of Main and Broadway, in 1876. This was bought out by Cridell & Fleisher one year later. A blacksmith shop, livery stable, and a few small business houses were erected, among them a hotel. In 1878, the First Methodist Church was erected. The Presbyterian Church was organized on Christmas day, 1881, but held their meetings in three places, Guadalupe, Santa Maria, and Pine Grove schoolhouse. The church was not specifically located in Santa Maria until 1882. The old church building on Chapel street was erected in 1884. The Christian congregation erected their building in 1885. The Methodists and Presbyterians have erected new and more appropriate buildings; and the Christian Church has, in the last few years, been altered and greatly improved.

In 1880 two school districts were formed—Agricola, one and one-half miles west of town; and Pleasant Valley, about the same distance southeast. A petition for a new district, named Central, was presented to the supervisors in October of 1881. On account of the districts already formed, the territory was very small. The petition was granted and the school was opened in the Methodist Church in February. Bonds were voted and a schoolhouse was erected that year, when seventy-eight pupils were enrolled.

The Pacific Coast Railroad, starting from Port Harford, now Port San Luis, in San Luis Obispo County, with destination at some point in Santa Ynez valley, reached Santa Maria in 1882 and gave a wonderful impetus to the town. It at once became the receiving point for nearly everything pro-

the office and all things shipped in for farm culture and

Santa Maria was never a "boom" town. Its growth from the start was sane and safe. Improvements came as they were needed; and when needed, someone was always ready to supply the want. John Crosby built the first hotel in 1875, a small frame structure which served all needs until 1882, when McElhany erected another and larger one on the south side of West Main street, called the American House. Like all new towns, the first buildings were small frame or board structures; and fires are a necessary evil in all such towns. Such a fire occurred in 1883 on the west side of South Broadway, destroying the furniture store of T. A. Jones & Son. This led to the erection of the first brick building in the town, now known as Hart's Hall, but erected by T. A. Jones. The next brick building was erected by Reuben Hart on the southwest corner of Main and Broadway, in 1884.

This history is in no way intended as biographical, but a true history of the city could not be complete without a notice of one man who has done much for Santa Maria. Reuben Hart, often called "The Father of Santa Maria," erected a blacksmith shop on the southeast corner of Main and Broadway, in the year 1875. Energetic and economical, he saved money from the start. In 1884 he built the second brick building, and then started a small water system for the supply of water to the citizens on the south side of Main street, which he later enlarged by purchasing the rights of two rival companies until he supplied the entire town. The water system established and perfected by Mr. Hart was purchased by the city in 1915 for \$72,000. Hotel accommodations being badly needed, in 1888 Mr. Hart removed the blacksmith shop and built in its stead the commodious hotel known as the Hart House; now, much enlarged, the Hotel Bradley. Still later, when more store rooms were needed, he erected a line of commodious brick buildings the entire length of block one on Broadway. He has prospered and amassed a competence, but he deserves the title he holds, "Father of Santa Maria."

Several succeeding fires destroyed many of the wooden structures, which were replaced by larger buildings of brick, until very few of the original houses are left to tell the story of the early struggles to carry on small business.

### An Eye for the Beautiful

Early in the settlement of the valley and town, the settlers began planting trees for shade and ornament, first the eucalyptus, and then the pine and the beautiful pepper trees. The roads leading into the country were lined by the tall, graceful eucalyptus, which, being a tree of rapid growth, soon became valuable for fire-wood as well as for its beauty. This remarkable tree will reach to fifty or eighty feet in five years, with a body of from six to ten inches in diameter. Cut down then, it will at once send forth from two to eight sprouts which, in another five years, will be as large as the parent tree was when cut. Being a tree of deep and wide-extending root, it draws the nourishment from the soil for many feet around; and as the land has become very valuable for crops, many of the farmers, preferring value to beauty, have destroyed them. The approaches to the city are still beautiful shady drives, and the streets lined by the pepper trees are remarkable for

### Efforts at Fruit Industry

The attempts at fruit-raising began with the early settlers, and at first were considered a great success. Trees grew rapidly and came into bearing at two years old. This led to extensive planting, largely of apricots, prunes, apples and pears. For six or seven years the trees grew thriftily and the fruit was good. Then the trees declined and the fruit grew smaller in size and poorer in quality, until fruit-raising was abandoned as unprofitable, and the large orchards were removed and the land used for better-paying crops. With irrigation and judicious fertilization all these fruits can be made to yield an income equal to, if not greater than, that realized from any other crop to which the land is planted.

### Banks

The Bank of Santa Maria was chartered in May, 1890, with William L. Adam, president, and P. O. Tietzen, cashier and manager. Cash capital, \$50,000. Today its capital and assets are \$325,000. The First National Bank began business in 1905. Archibald McNeil is president and Ernest Gibson, cashier and manager. A few years later, the Valley Savings Bank was organized as a loaning institution. It does not receive deposits. William H. Rice is president, and Thomas Adam local manager.

### Homicide

In 1890 occurred the most regrettable thing that has ever happened in Santa Maria. A man named Criswell was running a saloon on East Main street. He had started the red-light district, which caused him to be condemned by the people of the town, in very harsh ways. In revenge, he posted some very libelous statements in front of his saloon. They were torn down by the constable without a court order, but were replaced by Criswell the next day. "Doc" Southard, the constable, went to remove them again, without an order from the court. Criswell was standing in front of the saloon, when Southard approached; both were "gun men" and dead shots. A few harsh words passed, and both drew guns and shot simultaneously. Southard fell dead; and Criswell, fearfully wounded, was placed in his bedroom back of the saloon. Dark threats were made against him by Southard's friends, and the sheriff placed what he thought was an ample guard in the room. A mob of a dozen men, disguised, went to the saloon at midnight; the guard made no resistance and Criswell was hanged in the room, choked to death by the rope. It was one of the most cold-blooded, ghastly murders ever perpetrated by a mob, but the perpetrators were never apprehended. The best citizens thought that both men could well be spared, and no decided effort was made to bring the perpetrators to justice; but it must ever remain a dark stain on the history of the town.

### Telephone

In 1892 the Sunset Telephone Company began operation in a very small way in the town. J. C. (Barney) Martin was manager. For two years very little progress was made; then J. H. Haydon was placed in control and he succeeded in getting telephones into the principal business houses and many dwellings. The people learned that the "phone" had come to stay and that it was a necessity. Haydon remained manager until 1898, when L. L. Colvin



was appointed to succeed him, and under his management telephone business rapidly increased. The system was not improved, and there was so much complaint that the Home Telephone Company started a plant of their own with a better system and improved phones. This forced the old company to make great improvements, and the telephone spread all over the district. Now very few houses in town or country are without a telephone. Both companies are merged under the name of the Santa Barbara Telephone Co.

### **Incorporation**

In 1900 the first effort was made to incorporate the town. Two classes of people were violently opposed to incorporation. The first class were those who feared their taxes would be increased and would not vote for any improvement that might cost them something; unfortunately we have a few of that class still with us. The other and much larger class was the saloon element, who feared that incorporation would result in a dry town. The proposition was twice voted down. In April, 1905, another effort was made, and this time a proposition was made to the saloon people that they might name the board of trustees. This was accepted, the town was incorporated and the law went into effect, September 5, 1905. We still have the saloons, but under close restrictions: closing at 11 P. M. and all day Sundays, with clear windows and no gambling.

### **Temples and Halls**

The corner-stone of the Masonic Temple was laid in 1906, and the building completed and dedicated in May, 1907. This by far the best and costliest building in the city acted as an inspiration to others. The Jones buildings were erected immediately, completing the block on the east side. One year later the Odd Fellows building was erected on the southeast corner of Main and Lincoln streets. The Presbyterian Church on Chapel street was purchased and made over into Lisbon Hall. These, with the addition of Hart's Hall, furnish ample accommodation for all lodges and associations in Santa Maria.

### **Lodges in the City**

Almost every lodge or society is represented in the little city. The leading lodges are the Masons, Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, together with their sister associations, the Eastern Star, Pythian Sisters and Rebekahs. Following is a list of the first officers of the pioneer lodges, as chosen at their organization:

Hesperian Lodge, F. & A. M., of Santa Maria: A. H. Orr, Master; William Ayres, Secretary.

Santa Maria Lodge, K. of P.: H. C. Bagby, Chancellor Commander; George Brown, secretary.

Santa Maria Lodge of Odd Fellows: Benjamin F. Brock, Noble Grand; I. Frindett, secretary.

Fidelity Chapter, R. A. M.: Robert Travers, High Priest; J. H. Haydon, secretary.

### **Santa Maria High School**

A union high school district was formed in 1891, embracing at that time twenty-three primary school districts. For two years the high school was





connected with the district school. In 1894 an election for voting ten thousand dollars in bonds to erect a high school building was lost; but the voters expressed a willingness that a building be erected through direct taxes. This was done by the trustees, then consisting of the clerk of each school district, and the first part of the building was completed that year. The school was accredited by the State University in 1897, under the management of Prof. J. C. Russell, then principal, and from its first organization it has been the pride of the town and district. The building has been enlarged and the grounds beautified until today no high school of equal size in the state can boast of superiority. Under the superintendency of Prof. Nelson C. Smith, the school has a proficient staff of teachers, with one hundred and thirty-five pupils, and every study belonging to a first-grade high school is successfully taught.

### Grammar Schools

The growth of the town and the consequent increase in the number of children had caused the erection of a four-room building in the northwest part of the town, but by the act of incorporation which extended the city to two miles square, so much additional territory was added to the school district that additional school room was required. This need was met for a few years by renting buildings; but that plan having proven very unsatisfactory, bonds were voted in the sum of \$24,000, and two new and splendid buildings were erected, which meet every demand.

### Hotels

To meet the growing demand for hotel accommodations, Francis Joseph McCoy erected a hostelry, known as The Inn, one block north of the high school building on Broadway. This building has more than forty rooms, all outside, and each with a bath. There are ample garage accommodations for the traveling public, and everything is first-class.

Traveling salesmen unite in saying that Santa Maria is the liveliest and best town of its size in the state. With its splendid line of commercial houses; its ample hotels and restaurants; its first-class lawyers, doctors and dentists; its good churches and extraordinary school accommodations; and its beautiful residences and intelligent, hospitable people, why should it not be the best? Added to this, it is the center of the largest and richest supervisorial district in Santa Barbara County. The city has about three thousand five hundred inhabitants, figuring from its children of school age, no census having been taken since 1910. It has three newspapers, two private hospitals, a good fire department, a perfect lighting and power system, natural gas, good telephone and telegraph facilities, and broad, well-paved streets. The city owns its own water system, the income from which pays the interest and will eventually pay the water bonds; therefore it is not in debt. Homeseekers surely cannot find a better place in which to seek a home.

### Roads

One of the great drawbacks to the southern part of the valley and mesa of the La Graciosa country was the almost impassable roads, with an open, treeless plain to the ocean and sand dunes that had blown up over a great part of the mesa. The sand was lifted and blown about by the strong winds

that prevailed during about six months of the year. Planting of trees greatly impeded the wind, but the roads were so very sandy that travel, even by light conveyance, was very slow and disagreeable.

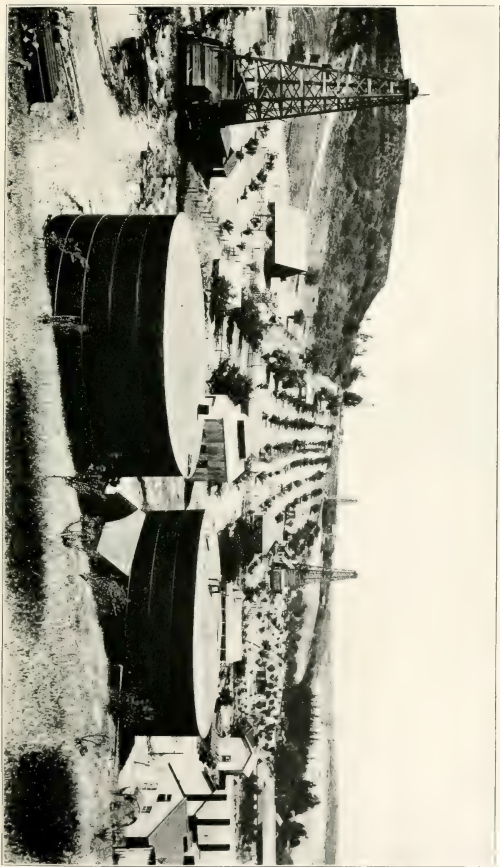
For many years the only method of working these sand roads was by placing straw on them. This was a temporary improvement only. In 1892 Walter Elliott, then supervisor of the fifth district, conceived the idea of placing from six to ten inches of hard-pan on the sand and thoroughly dragging and rolling it smooth and hard. This proved to be a great success. The great number of trees planted and their rapid growth had so broken the force of the wind that sand to a considerable extent ceased to be blown onto the roads, and traveling was very much improved. When oil became plentiful and cheap, it was worked into the hard-pan and the sandy roads became the best in the valley.

### Santa Maria Oil Fields

From the time oil was found at Summerland, many people thought that it might be found in the hills south of Santa Maria. John Conway may be called the pioneer. He had faith enough to secure the opinion of some experts and began securing oil leases on lands supposed to be in the oil belt. These leases had time limits and he only secured the co-operation of one company, the Casmalia Oil Co. This company operated near Casmalia and succeeded in finding a grade of oil too heavy to be valuable. Conway had the lease of the Careaga ranch, but failing to interest capital, gave up the lease. A. H. McKay then secured the lease and succeeded in forming the Western Union Oil Co., of which he was manager. The company began drilling a well on the south part of the lease, with William P. Logan as drilling superintendent. Oil was struck in this well in August, 1901, at a depth of nearly two thousand feet. A slight earthquake a few days after this well came in, broke and disarranged the pipe and the well for a time was useless.

Two other wells were then begun, one of them about a half mile east of the first well. This well was completed in much shorter time and proved to be a gusher. Several new companies were quickly formed and oil leases were acquired. The most important of these companies were the Union Oil Co., which bought the Hobbs tract of land and leased the Fox tract (the Abner Stubblefield ranch), and the Pinal Company, composed of local capitalists, which secured an option on the Coleman Stubblefield tract of four hundred eighty acres. The Pinal No. 1 was a paying well, and No. 2 was the first great gusher. This well threw the oil in great streams far over the top of the eighty-six-foot derrick and brought thousands of people to see it. About the same time, the Union Oil Co. brought in their first well, Fox No. 1. The fact that these wells were two miles north from the Western Union proved a wide belt of oil territory, and excitement became intense. Oil companies were formed rapidly and everybody who had any ready money was a prospecting company.

The Rice Ranch Oil Co., that had failed to sink a well in Cat cañon, was reformed, and the New Pennsylvania, the Associated Petroleum, the Hopkins and many other companies secured leases and began operations. Soon what had been an unexplored mountain of jungle was covered by derricks, and roads were constructed



OIL FIELD OF THE SANTA MARIA VALLEY



where horsemen had refused to ride. The Union, on account of its immense capital, took the lead, and the Pinal and the Pinal-Dome, both of local capital, acquired large tracts of oil territory. Many of the new and smaller companies, in which local citizens had invested, failed to make good, and the small investors lost money; but usually the promoters came out all right, for the money spent was that paid in by the purchasers of stock.

The Newlove ranch of over three thousand acres lying between the Pinal and Western Union was purchased by the Union Co. for three and one-half million dollars, and has yielded millions of barrels of oil and is only partly explored. In this oil belt deep drilling is required, some of the wells reaching a depth of nearly five thousand feet, and the cost of a well ranges from \$20,000 to \$60,000. The oil sand is from two hundred to one thousand feet deep, and the wells, when finished, are durable. Very few wells have failed to yield a paying quantity of oil, and the oil is of the highest grade found in the state.

Early in the oil-prospecting stage, several attempts were made to sink wells farther east in what is known as the Cat cañon territory; but owing to the formation of the soil, the prospectors failed to succeed. With improved facilities, later efforts were successful, and fine paying wells were found. This region is generally called the Palmer, from the first and strongest company operating there. The oil operations there have been so great that the Santa Maria Valley Railroad was built from Betteravia to the Palmer Annex, and the Pacific Coast Railroad was extended to the Palmer. The town of Sisquoc was started for a shipping point for oil-well supplies, and has a good general mercantile store and the very unnecessary saloon.

---

## SANTA MARIA VALLEY AND ENVIRONS

In writing of a country or place, the necessary starting point is "Where is it?" Santa Maria Valley is the real and only entrance, on the north, from Northern California to Southern California. As we are implying that Santa Maria Valley is the northern boundary of Southern California, it may be that a few words of explanation are necessary. A straight line drawn from the eastern boundary of the state through the Tehachapi pass to the ocean has always been considered the dividing line between Northern and Southern California, and that line falls only a few miles north of this valley.

The valley is almost a perfect ellipse, but widens at the western or ocean end, thence bending north and south in a northeasterly direction to the intersection of the mountains at the terminus of Foxen cañon. Nothing was known of this great valley until Fremont's expedition in 1846. Upon what small things do great events depend! Through the reckless nerve of one little woman Fremont's great "pathfinding" expedition became possible. Fremont had married Jessie, daughter of Senator Thomas H. Benton of Missouri. Through the influence of Benton the expedition had been planned and Fremont had been selected to lead it. Leaving his wife in St. Louis, with instructions to forward by courier any mail of importance, Fremont started on his long trip. In the meantime the government had forwarded orders recalling the expedition. The orders reached St. Louis four days after his



departure, and Mrs. Fremont suppressed them. Those were not days of telegraph and railroads. The shortest time of mail from Washington to St. Louis was seven days; and as the troop of forty-two men had left Independence four days before the letter reached St. Louis, the recall was impossible. This was Fremont's third trip across the continent, and during the interval the United States and Mexico had become engaged in war. On July 5, 1846, he defeated General Castro at Sonoma. He was elected governor of the territory by the Americans, after which he started to Los Angeles.

He entered the Santa Maria valley July 21st near where the city of Santa Maria now is, and stopped two days near La Graciosa, supposedly at the Brookshire Springs. Fremont had intended to go south by way of Gaviota pass; but finding the Mexicans in control there, he secured the guidance of William Foxen, then the owner of Rancho Tinaquaic, who guided him through Foxen cañon up the Santa Ynez river, and over the mountains, reaching the valley near Goleta. Mr. Charles Buckner, formerly of St. Charles, Mo., who was with Fremont, says that Foxen "was the only white man in the valley. Mexicans in those days were not considered white people. Mr. Buckner speaks of the valley as "broad, of very sandy soil and very little water," from which we infer that the western part of the valley was not traversed by Fremont, that the direct route to Gaviota was taken, and that the fastest time possible was being made.

The early padres certainly passed through the valley, but it has not been found that it impressed them sufficiently to be recorded. The western part of the valley is covered by the Guadalupe, Laguna and Casmalia land grants.

### Guadalupe Rancho

The Guadalupe grant starts from the ocean with an ocean line of ten miles and extends eastward eight miles. This grant was made by the Mexican government, March 21, 1840, to Diego Olivera and Teodoro Arellanes, and covered originally 30,408 acres. In 1857, Congress confirmed the grant. In 1870 a patent was issued for 43,680 acres. By what logic, or other consideration, the extra 13,000 acres got into this grant is unknown. As the addition covers the most valuable portion, the reasons therefor may be easily surmised. The western portion is largely covered by sand dunes. The eastern is black adobe or heavy sandy soil and very productive. The rancho passed to the Estudillo family before the time it was patented; and John Ward, who had married a daughter of Estudillo, did the first farming, in 1867. Congress voted a triangular tract of land lying between Guadalupe rancho and Punta de la Laguna rancho to John Ward in consideration of the construction of a wagon road from Point Sal to Fort Tejon. He constructed nine miles of the road and claimed the land, as there was a natural pass-way from Fort Tejon to Guadalupe; and the patent was issued. The rancho house, now owned by William Stokes, which used to be known as the "Old Adobe," was erected by Diego Olivera in 1843.

Stock-raising was the only business followed by the Spanish owners, but vegetables of all kinds have since been produced in great abundance. Efforts to propagate fruits were failures. The climate is cool and health-giving, but too bleak for fruits unless protected by wind-breaks, and is not a marked success even then. The lower part of the rancho has produced one hundred

twenty bushels of barley to the acre, but wheat does not succeed well. In the upper end, grain of all kinds is raised in great abundance.

In 1872, H. J. Laughlin started a store near the old adobe, and the town of Guadalupe was established. The Kaisers came two years later. In 1875, the first newspaper in the northern part of the county, entitled *The Guadalupe Telegraph*, was established, and was printed in the old adobe. Financial difficulties ensued, and the plant was purchased by H. J. Laughlin and conveyed to the late De Witte Hubble, who published the paper many years.

Guadalupe was the starting-place of some men who have since become very prominent in their professions, among whom may be mentioned Judge B. F. Thomas of Santa Barbara and Dr. William T. Lucas of Santa Maria.

The most unique character that was ever about the rancho was Jose Chisito Olivera, a relative of the patentee. He remembered and told of the great dances or fandangoes that were held at the old adobe before the coming of the Gringos. He also said that until 1847 there was only a small stream of water there, and that in that year an earthquake occurred and the lagoon was formed. He claimed that Fremont stopped three days at the old adobe, and that a beautiful señorita fell in love with one of the officers and went south with him.\* Jose was heir to one-twelfth of the Todos Santos rancho, and traded his entire interest for a saddle and a gallon of whiskey. When his friends told him that the rancho would sometime be very valuable, his reply was: "Yes, maybe, but I need the saddle now, and whiskey is always good."

The first Masonic lodge in northern Santa Barbara County was organized in Guadalupe, on June 12, 1874, with the following officers: J. J. Eddleman, W. M.; Russell Parkhurst, S. W.; John R. Norris, J. W.; and B. F. Thomas, Sec.

Dr. William T. Lucas, afterwards Master of this lodge, was elected Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of California in 1896. From this lodge, Hesperian Lodge No. 264 was largely formed, in 1882, and for the next twelve or fifteen years the lodge languished. Following the building of the sugar factory at Betteravia the lodge sprang into a new lease of life, and in the last few years they have erected a splendid hall, in which they hold their meetings.

Guadalupe has two good hotels, a Catholic church, a school building of six rooms, and two large dry goods and grocery stores, with many smaller lines of business of all kinds. The town has had a varied history. Prosperous from its founding until, in 1882, the building of the Pacific Coast Railway ten miles farther up the valley gave an impetus to the little town of Santa Maria, then called Central City, Guadalupe then lost many of its prominent residents, who moved to the new center of trade. Guadalupe declined until the building of the Southern Pacific Railway through the town gave it advantages in shipping facilities, since which time it has been very prosperous. The present population is largely Swiss, with quite a number of Japanese and Chinese in the southern part. There is a Chinese Masonic lodge, but it is not recognized officially by the American lodges.

---

\* Fremont's notes do not indicate that he was in Guadalupe, neither does Parker's story.

### Rancho Punta de la Laguna

Living east of Corraldupe rancho is the Rancho Punta de la Laguna, ten by seven miles in extent, but of irregular shape. The grant was made to Luis Arellanes and E. M. Ortega, Dec. 24, 1844, and originally was for 26,684 acres; but when confirmed by Congress it had grown to 44,000. The name of this rancho was derived from the irregular, but beautiful lake lying within its territory and called the Laguna. The vast watershed or territory embracing parts of Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Kern and Ventura counties, drained by the Cuyama and Sisquoc rivers, has its outlet in the Santa Maria valley.\* The territory drained by these rivers is almost as large as the state of Vermont. The lower river and the valley were named for an Indian named Mario, who roamed over this country before the occupancy by Americans. He was one of the early converts to Christianity at the Santa Ynez Mission and was thereafter called Santa Maria, the masculine termination of his name being changed to the feminine. These rivers are rushing torrents during rainy seasons; but in the spring the water sinks into the ground when it reaches the valley, and rises twenty miles below to form the lake.

The water in the valley is from thirty to one hundred twenty feet below the surface, and an abundance of water can be found by drilling or digging to those depths at almost any place. With the exception of the area covered by the Laguna, all parts of the rancho are adapted to agriculture. In early days vast herds of cattle, horses and sheep grazed over the entire ranch. This was followed by dairying, which gave way to grain, and this, in turn, was superseded by beans and beets. Three large ranches, from the northeastern portion of this rancho, were purchased prior to 1880 by W. S. Adam, John Shuman and John Rice, respectively. Grain was their principal crop; but each of them tried to develop fruit culture and walnuts. Fruits were a very poor success; and walnuts, on account of the cool, bleak winds, were an entire failure. Mr. Shuman made a second trial in 1894 with walnuts and apricots; but meeting a second failure, he abandoned all efforts to raise fruits except a little for home use.

Land on any part of the rancho could have been purchased up to 1897 for from \$30 to \$50 per acre. The Union Sugar Company purchased the southeastern portion of the rancho at that date, and began the erection of a sugar factory on the bank of the north prong of the Laguna. They made contracts with the farmers throughout the valley to raise and deliver beets in 1898; but the great drought of 1897-98 made it an impossibility to raise beets and all contracts were canceled. Believing it impossible to raise beets successfully without irrigation, the company completed the plant in 1898 and began to erect a great irrigation system. This was begun first by artesian wells; later they drilled wells where they were needed, and lifted the water by immense engines. This was the first real effort at irrigation in Santa Maria valley. In 1898, when it was so dry that virtually nothing was produced naturally J. F. Goodwin erected a small plant on the bank of the Laguna and by irrigation raised a small crop of hay.

From the advent of the sugar factory a marked improvement in farming

---

\* The river above the junction with the Sisquoc always was, and should now be, called the Cuyama; and from the junction to the ocean, the Santa Maria.

began throughout the valley. The farmers had been using the Stockton gang-plow drawn by from four to eight horses, and only skimming the ground. The factory people introduced immense team or steam plows, and turned the earth from thirteen to twenty inches deep. The favorable result was quickly seen, shallow plowing became a thing of the past, and crops of all kinds were much increased. It has been found that the alkali land, that had been considered worthless, produced fair crops of beets when plowed deeply, and that the beets neutralized the alkali. J. W. Atkinson has had charge of the company from the time of first construction, and under his management it has been a success from the beginning. In 1908 the company planted 11,116 acres in beets, besides what they purchased. The year 1913 was the banner season for production, the yield reaching the enormous amount of one hundred fifteen thousand tons. It was claimed by many wise ones that beets exhausted the soil, and that after a few years beet planting would cease. But with a skilful plan of rotation of crops, the yield is at this date equal to that of the virgin soil. For the first decade Ellis Nicholson was in charge of the agricultural department. He was succeeded by M. M. Purkiss, and to their ability much of the productive success is due.

A line of the Pacific Coast Railway was built to the factory when construction began, and later the Southern Pacific Railway built a branch of their road to the same point. A beautiful row of cottages border the lake and extend one block north. The company erected a commodious schoolhouse at its own cost, and a new school district was formed. The company has deeded the schoolhouse and the site to the district. A general merchandise store, which contains almost everything, is operated by the company. They have a non-denominational church building and a splendid clubhouse. Prior to the erection of the factory, vast swarms of geese and ducks covered the Laguna; but since that time there has been a great decrease in both ducks and geese. From the starting of improved culture, the land has rapidly advanced in value and is now held at from \$150 to \$300 per acre. The main crop is beans, on that part of the rancho not owned by the sugar company. The majority of the farmers are Portuguese, who hailed from the Azores. They have raised large and patriotic families in their adopted country.

### Suey Rancho

The Suey rancho was granted to Ramona Carrillo de Wilson. The patent was issued in 1865, and conveyed 48,234 acres. As the larger part of the grant is in San Luis Obispo County, and less than 2,000 acres in the Santa Maria valley, we shall merely say that the survey of the line in the valley was a marvel of ingenuity: instead of a straight or curving line, it right angles at every point where it was possible to include an extra piece of good land. The ranch is now owned by the Newhall family and is a great stock ranch; but thousands of acres are cultivated in grain and beans.

### Rancho Tepesquet

This rancho was granted to Manuel Olivera in 1842. W. D. Foxen, who married a daughter of Olivera, used it as a stock ranch from 1843 to 1855, when Pacifico Ontiveros, who had also married a daughter of Olivera, came from Los Angeles and took possession by virtue of gift. The occupancy by

the Foxens led to the erroneous belief in their ownership. The patent was issued to Pacifico Ontiveros in 1868, and was for 8,900 acres extending from the range of low hills on the south of the Sisquoc river to the approaches of the San Rafael mountains lying to the eastward. The valley land is a rich sandy loam and produces enormous crops of grain or vegetables. The mesa lying between the river and the hills, called the Santa Maria Mesa, was for many years famous for its abundant crops and high quality of wheat. Constant crops of wheat, with no rest or rotation, have had the inevitable result of lessening the yield, until wheat has ceased to be cultivated. The hill country is rugged, and some of it very steep; but it is a fine place for stock-raising. Tepesquet creek extends from the Sisquoc river through a narrow pass for about thirteen miles, a never-failing stream of pure, clear water, with abundant fall for irrigation or water power. The ranch passed into the possession of four sons of Pacifico: Patricio, Salvador, Juan D. and Abraham. Salvador died in 1890 and his interest was purchased by the others. Only a small portion of the original rancho is now owned by the Ontiveros family.

### **Sisquoc Rancho**

The Sisquoc rancho, containing about thirty-five thousand five hundred acres, lies just east of the valley of Santa Maria. For about two miles, it fronts on the valley, and then strikes north and east for ten miles. The Sisquoc river runs diagonally through it from east to west. Very little farming is done, except for hay, stock-raising being the principal industry. The entire ranch is owned by the Sisquoc Land and Investment Co.

### **Rancho Tinaquaic**

The grant of this rancho was made by the Mexican government to Victor Linares in 1837. The patent was issued to Wm. D. Foxen, who came into possession about 1840. It is rectangular in shape and is two and one-half miles by five and one-half, and contains 8,875 acres. The most of the land is hilly, and used for grazing; but both grain and beans are produced very successfully. Like the rest of the Spanish or Mexican grants, it has passed into the hands of others than the heirs of Foxen, and only a small portion now belongs to any of his descendants.

### **Rancho Los Alamos**

This rancho is largely the southern boundary of that part of the Santa Maria valley where the public or government land is located. As very much of the great Santa Maria oil field is on this grant, it is entitled to be considered in any history of the valley. The grant was made to Jose Antonio Carrillo in 1839, and it is said to be the only Mexican grant signed by Santa Anna. The grant was for 49,000 acres. It was patented by the United States government on September 12, 1872. The survey called for 48,803.38 acres. Five years before the patent was issued, Carrillo sold a large tract of land off the grant to Thomas Bell, who put John S. Bell in possession. When the rancho was subsequently patented to Carrillo, the title was clouded, and a series of lawsuits, almost rivaling the great Mira Clark Gains trials, ensued, the case keeping on intermittently for twenty-five years, until the Bell heirs finally won. In 1882 the rancho had 500 horses, 1,600 cattle and 60,000 sheep. Fully thirty thousand acres is adapted to agriculture; and when the Pacific



ADOBE ON THE TEPEQUET RANCHO  
ERECTED 1878



Coast Railway was built and a market for grain assured, the stock business rapidly declined and today no part of it is a stock ranch. The town of Los Alamos was located in 1877, though a store and blacksmith shop were there several years before. Some other portions of this ranch will be named in the chapter devoted to oil production.

### **Todos Santos Rancho**

This ranch, granted to Salvador Osio, originally contained twenty-two thousand acres. In 1844 the grant was confirmed by Mexico to William Hartnell. The patent from the American government calls for only 10,722 acres. This grant contained a large amount of good farming land and all the remaining portion was splendid grazing land. At one time it contained one hundred head of horses, three hundred cattle and three thousand five hundred sheep. The widely known La Graciosa pass, which gave the name to all the district, is on this grant. The greatest oil gusher ever struck in the Santa Maria oil fields is also on it. This well, known as Hartnell No. 2, was the wonder of the country for weeks—a mighty stream of oil rising 150 feet into the air, spreading out and falling in torrents, starting a veritable flood of oil down the narrow valley. A strong smell of gas permeating the air told what was the mighty power below that gave the wonderful pressure. Great pools were hastily constructed into which poured thousands of barrels of oil daily. That well was photographed from every conceivable angle, and the pictures were sent all over the United States and even to Europe. It was months before it was properly capped and brought under control. The Hartnell heirs still own an interest in part of the rancho.

### **Town of Garey**

In 1887, Thomas A. Garey organized a land company to operate in the eastern part of the valley. The large tract of land owned by Paul Bradley was nearly all bargained for, and the town of Garey located. Those were the days when fruit was thought to be the coming fortune-maker. Garey started a large nursery near the town, and orchards were planted by many people. The most extensive orchard was that of the Kaiser brothers, one hundred sixty acres, one mile east of Garey. It was proposed to impound the watershed south of the town and thus secure water for the irrigation of the entire valley. A hotel was built; and a blacksmith shop, a store, and the inevitable saloon about completed the town. A school district was formed, and a post office secured with a route from Santa Maria. As with all other parts of the valley, the lack of irrigation and proper fertilization caused fruit to be a failure. The irrigation scheme was a delusion, and the great California boom of 1885 having exploded, the Garey company collapsed and the land returned to its original owners. The orchards have been destroyed, and that part of the valley is now devoted to the production of beans, alfalfa and grain.

### **Orcutt**

Owners of land in the near-oil regions nearly all wisely sold their land to oil companies instead of speculating in oil chances. The town of Orcutt was laid out by the Union Oil Co. on the Pacific Coast Railroad at the northeast corner of the Todos Santos rancho, and was named Orcutt in honor of its founder. It was provided in the charter that there was never to be a saloon



and this scheme was thwarted by a man who owned land adjoining the town, who laid out an addition on the north side with no provision against the saloon. The result was that four saloons were started the first year. The founders of the town donated a lot for a church building, and offered two hundred dollars to the first denomination that would organize a church and erect a building. The Methodists quickly accepted the proposition, and established a church; and the building was erected. Oil-supply companies at once moved their headquarters from Santa Maria to Orcutt. Machine shops were also established, and the town made rapid growth for three or four years. Then the development of the Cat cañon oil fields drew the operations to that field, and Orcutt ceased to improve.

Orcutt has a good grammar school and a schoolhouse of two rooms, now in use, and another room is being built for the coming school year. There are cement walks, and a cement tennis court. The enrollment of pupils is about ninety. There is one large general merchandise store, two machine shops, a post office, hotel and restaurant. The headquarters of the Standard Oil Co. for this district are located here. The oil development is returning to these fields, and Orcutt may take on a new start in improvement. The Union, Pinal-Dome and Pennsylvania companies are all large manufacturers of gasoline, and the natural gas for the supply of Santa Maria, Betteravia, Guadalupe, Arroyo Grande and San Luis Obispo is produced in this field. The gas plant is owned and managed by Santa Maria people and has proven a good paying investment.

### CUYAMA VALLEY

We have sketched each of the grants lying in or bordering on the public domain, or government land lying in the valley of the Santa Maria. This, the most interesting and important part of the valley, covers about ninety square miles or 75,600 acres. No history of this section of country can be complete without a description also of the great valley of the Cuyama—not so much because it is a part of it or connected with it, but because it is detached and has no direct connection with any place. This valley, while being almost entirely in Santa Barbara County, has its starting point near the joint corner of three counties, Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo. Then it spreads down the Cuyama river for thirty miles. Stretching south from the river to the Sierra Madre del Sur, at one point forty miles, it embraces an area greater than many entire counties of the Eastern states. Many people, even in this county, think the Cuyama rancho is the entire valley. This false idea has been one of the deterrent reasons for the defeat of a bond issue to construct a good road from the Santa Maria valley to Cuyama. Until 1890 the only way to reach the valley was by traveling directly up the river. For many miles the river runs between bluffs on either side, forming what was known as "The Narrows." Each concurrent flood in the river threw huge boulders into the roadway and obstructed travel. In 1892, the supervisors had a graded road built around the Narrows which made travel at all times of the year possible. Even with this improvement, it is necessary to cross the river thirty-six times.

In 1890 Calloway Heath made his way up the river and pre-empted a quarter section a few miles south of the Caliente Spring. The Caliente is a spring of warm water, about 130 degrees Fahrenheit, that gushes out of the

side of a hill and winds its way to the river. During the next few years quite a little settlement had gathered, among whom were H. C. Malory, C. Richards, C. W. Clarrton, Philip Kelly and two young school teachers, Minnie Green and Sophia Fauntleroy. In 1894, a post office named Wasioja, with H. C. Malory as postmaster, was established, with a stage route from Santa Maria. The trip took two days each way, the carrier camping out at night. There was no dwelling at which to stop. The vehicle in which the mail was carried was a cart, on the hind part of which was bound a bundle of hay. The postmaster at Santa Maria was requested by the postal department to "Describe the stages and stock used on this route and principal products." A few days before this a rattlesnake had been killed in Cuyama that had eighteen rattles, and the rattles given to the deputy postmaster. The postmaster, who knew about as much about Cuyama as a high-school girl does of Sanskrit, had a picture of the cart and horse taken, and enclosing the picture and rattles, wrote: "Route 68 miles. No settlements. Picture shows stage and stock. Rattles show principal products."

A school district called Wasioja was formed at this settlement in 1895, Miss Minnie Green, teacher. James Good and some others had taken claims about six miles south of the Cuyama ranch house, and a school district was formed in 1895 called Cuyama. The terrible drought of 1897-98, which gave all of California a hard blow, was excessively bad for Cuyama. Nothing was raised, and stock could not be sold. Several years of partial drought followed, and nearly all the settlers left the valley. Some sold their farms for a pittance, others left them unoccupied; and some who had not secured title abandoned them. Both school districts lapsed for want of pupils. In 1908 some of the settlers returned. Some of the forsaken homes were purchased by new people and new claims were filed. In 1912-13-14, fairly good crops were obtained; but 1915 produced the banner wheat crop, the yield going in some cases to fifty bushels per acre. One school district was established in 1915, the old Cuyama; and this year, 1917, Wasioja is renewed and two new districts have been built. An abundant supply of water is furnished them by the county line down the Cuyama, intersecting the Santa Maria valley at the mouth of Tepesquet creek. All the travel to and from the San Joaquin valley to the ocean would be by this route.

### Cuyama Rancho

The grant of this immense tract of land was made to Gasper Orcna and Jose Maria Rojo in 1843. It was patented by the United States to Maria Antonio de la Guerra and Cesario Lataillade in 1868, and called for 71,620.75 acres. The Cuyama river divides the rancho into two about equal parts, and about 40,000 acres are in Santa Barbara county. The rancho at one time sustained three thousand cattle and six hundred horses, with twenty-five hundred sheep; but they ranged all the land to the Sierra Madre del Sur. Only a few horses and about one thousand cattle are now kept. The old ranch house is far up the valley on Ranch No. 2. This part of the rancho is being subdivided to be sold to settlers, and a few miles south of the ranch house a site for a town has been located. On the lower part, or Ranch No. 1, an immense irrigating plant is being completed. There lovely homes and great barns have been formed. A highway or good road should be built from the Kern beautiful Caliente spring. Santa Barbara people, go and see Cuyama and you will vote bonds for the highway to it.

## A TRAGEDY OF THE RANGE

By Augustus Slack

First published in the Los Angeles Times Magazine, August 7, 1910, so graphically describes a thunderstorm in the Cuyama valley, and a not uncommon tragedy in the days of the wild, long-horned Spanish cattle, that it is embodied in our history. Luigi Marre later became owner of a great tract of land near Avila and continued in the cattle business until his death in 1903. His heirs still own large numbers of cattle and stay with the range. To gather two thousand head of beef steers in 1868 after the awful drought meant a visit to many and many a ranch far south of the San Luis Obispo ranges, for the cattle were gone from our hills, and their bleaching bones whitened the floors of the valleys. Luigi Marre and other cattlemen reaped fortunes buying cattle from the southern ranches and driving them to the mines, where prices as high as a dollar per pound were paid for beef at retail and sixty cents at wholesale. About thirty years ago, Augustus Slack took up a claim in the Cuyama.

### A Heroic Act of a Young Mexican of Long Ago

On the 22nd of May, 1868, two thousand and more fat, sleek, but tired, footsore steers were quietly resting. Some stood contentedly chewing their cud, while many lay dozing in the rank alfilaria, on the great level mesa and down through the mouth of the Cañada Verde out onto the broad flats that lie along the river near the Cuyama valley. Only four days before they had been crowded into the mouth of the narrows of the Santa Maria river less than thirty-five miles below, with much urging had been forced through, and had climbed over the rocks of that fearful gorge.

These were beef steers, bought and owned by a noted buyer and drover of early California days, Luigi Marre, then of San Francisco, and were gathered from the slightly replenished herds of many ranchos, even below the pueblo of Los Angeles as far south as the mission, San Juan Capistrano. Trailing along the Camino Real, Luigi Marre and twenty trained vaqueros had come, driving and guarding more than half a hundred saddle horses in the caballada ahead, and two thousand steers, over the Conejo and through the famous Gaviota pass, into the head of the Santa Maria valley. Here they left the usual route that followed the old overland stage road, and laid their course for the mining towns on the Merced, Tuolumne and Stanislaus rivers through the Coast range, by way of the Santa Maria river gorge known as the Narrows, through the Cuyama valley and on over the San Joaquin plains.

Old Antonio, who was chief cook for this outfit, had made camp beneath the shade of a large white oak that still stands at the foot of the mesa bluff where the Agua Caliente spring pours down from the rocks and rushes to the river just below. It was near the noon hour, and over the coals broiled and baked the meat and the crisp tortillas. About lounged all but three of the vaqueros, inhaling the pleasant incense of the all-but-ready midday meal with the pungent smoke of their cigarettes. Three stood guard over the quiet herd. One of these, Jose Calderon, a fair youth scarcely out of his teens—the pride and pet of the older vaqueros—stood beside his horse on the summit of a small knoll that rose to the height of probably thirty feet out of the smooth mesa, and commanded a perfect view of this characteristic Southern California pastoral scene.

Off towards the eastern horizon, where the Sierra San Rafael meets the sky and crowds close in to the lofty Mt. Pinos of the Sierra Pelona, there

rose to view in the otherwise clear sky a small, dark cloud that came on down the cañon of the upper Santa Maria river, and in a few minutes had spread out into a great dark mass that filled the entire upper end of the Cuyama valley, shutting from sight the mountains above. A breeze blowing in from Kern valley over the low Paletta hills, drove the whole black mass to the south, where it hung low on the mountain ridge that forms the south wall of the Cuyama valley. A phenomenon of nature, peculiar to that section, then took place. The atmosphere became oppressively sultry, a wind came up from the south, and almost instantly the sky was filled with rolling, tumbling clouds. There was a barely perceptible quivering reflection of distant lightning.

Jose, though young in years, had learned well the arts and ways of the range when a child watching the herds of his father down beyond the Colorado desert in old Sonora. Knowing well what was due to happen within the next few minutes, with a graceful swing he sat lightly but firmly in the saddle, his left hand grasping the bridle reins, his right instinctively feeling for the heavy rawhide quirt that hung at the pommel of his saddle, his bright eyes riveted on the great quiet herd below. There was a vivid flash of light. Some mighty power had swung an unseen sword that cut a fearful zigzag gash through the semi-twilight and left a burning red scar, that remained in sight for an instant and then as instantly healed.

Jose began nervously and rapidly counting, his eyes ever on that quiet herd. "Uno, dos, tr—" With a crash the very heavens tore apart. A rumbling roar swung off to the south and the mountain cliffs there passed it back down the valley. Jose's heavy silver-mounted spurs raked the trembling flanks of his restless mount. He heard nothing, only saw those two thousand and more fear-crazed steers plunge forward and sweep out onto the level plain.

Directly across their course a short half-mile away, ran the small stream of the Cuyama river between perpendicular banks a hundred feet apart and forty feet down. Had that onrushing bunch of crowding horns and hide reached there, a fortune would have vanished in an instant. A score of proud vaqueros would have lost caste among their kind and been classed as Gringos, fit only to companion with dogs and guard sheep.

At their front, crowding in closely, recklessly, rode young Jose. He swung far out from his saddle, lashing and beating with his quirt at the head of a brindle longhorn giant that, as a yearling, had cropped swamp grass and tule in the *ciénagas* down about the mouth of the Santa Ana and had survived the drought of '64. Close up rode Luigi Marre with the doubled loop of his *reata* desperately lashing the long-horned heads. Closely following were twenty faithful, fearless vaqueros, yelling and slashing, in a hand-to-hand struggle to swing the crazed herd and circle it ere reaching the river bank. Within a rod of the bank Jose passed as he swung around the moiling band, leaning far out from the saddle right over those long pointed horns, beating and lashing more fiercely at the head of that brindle giant; but the battle was won.

The feet of a near-winded mustang sank deep into the soft mound that covered a family home of cute little valley chipmunks. A fallen horse sprang quickly to his feet and carried an empty saddle on around with the wild swing of the moiling band. Jose's lithe body as he fell had met the upthrust

of the fallen hero where it hung for a moment, and then with a toss of the head it was thrown heavily to the ground. Luigi Marre jerked his horse to a stand, and sprang to the side of the fallen hero. The others raced on around with the nearly conquered herd.

Within an hour of the time of that fearful crash of thunder those two thousand and more steers were peacefully grazing among the scattered clumps of Indian arrowwood that grew along the river flats, and the sun shone brightly over the vast and magnificent Cuyama valley. Down near the river bank knelt Luigi Marre, with a silken scarf pressed tightly to the ragged wound across a dying lad's breast in a vain attempt to stanch the crimson flow. As the sun broke through the parting clouds and decked with glittering jewels the fair landscape freshly baptized from the heavens, Luigi Marre, bending low his head, heard from Jose's pallid lips these barely whispered words: "Yo le mandaria un mandaje á Anita, en Hermosillo, Adiós, Adiós!" ("I must send a message to Anita, in Hermosillo, Good-by, Good-by!")—and the faithful Sonoran lad was dead.

The mellow Cuyama twilight slowly merged into night, while saddened toil-stained vaqueros carried from the river's bed the last of the boulders to form a stone cross. It lies alone, beneath the constant vigil of the mountains, amid the solitude of the Cuyama valley. On over the plains of the valley of the San Joaquin trailed the great drove to its destination and to its destiny, but the stone cross is there in Cuyama valley still. It lies on a beautiful flat near the center of the valley and marks the grave of young Jose. On the south side rises the mesa bluff. On the other flows the river.

#### WHAT WAS PUBLIC DOMAIN OF SANTA MARIA VALLEY

Heretofore we have spoken of Santa Maria valley as a whole. The ranchos, or grants, having been duly considered, because they were first brought into use, we turn now to the body of land between the boundaries of these grants. This embraces about 80,000 acres. Until about 1869 the valley, at least this part of it, was considered of very small value. In 1866, a group of men, of whom the writer was one, living near Santa Rosa, having heard of the valley, sent men to investigate with a view to securing homes. The investigators reported the valley as a treeless, waterless plain of very poor soil, with no possible outlet. All thought of coming to the valley was abandoned. Several years later a number of these men came to the valley and secured homes, but too late to get the choice locations. In 1867, B. F. Wiley located a quarter section of land just north of where the town of Santa Maria was afterward laid out. He excavated a cave in the side of a small hill and lived in it two years. In 1868 he dug a well fifty-four feet deep that lasted five years without casing.

In the fall of 1868, John G. Prell and Hiram Sibley came to the valley and located three miles south of Wyley; and both of them erected houses, hauling the lumber from San Luis Obispo. The house built by Prell was torn down to make room for a better one; the Sibley house still stands and is now owned by P. W. Jones. In August of 1868, Thomas, James, and William Holloway and their mother came to the valley and settled at Sand Spring, three miles south of where Santa Maria now is. In the fall of that year, James Holloway was married to Rebecca Miller; this was the first marriage of Americans in the valley. Maria, daughter of Thomas Holloway, was born

in May, 1899; and Thomas Miller, now of Goketa, a nephew of Mrs. James Holloway, was born in November, 1869. These were the first American children born in the valley. In the great drought of 1897-98, the sand spring ceased to flow, and now is only a memory, as it has not flowed since that date.

In February of 1869, Thomas Brookshire, Abner Stubblefield and Coleman Stubblefield came into the valley and settled in the La Graciosa district. Theirs were the next houses built in the valley. Later on in 1869, W. C. Oakley and Wm. Adam settled near where Santa Maria now is. In September of 1869, Benjamin Turman settled on a quarter section that is now entirely in the city of Santa Maria. These are the only settlers of the '60's, and their descendants are still here.

For a few years the southern part, or the La Graciosa country, took the lead. A store was started on that part of the Todos Santos owned by Hartnell, and a school district was established, taking in all the territory now occupied by Washington, Orcutt, Pine Grove, Newlove, Careaga and Martin districts. La Graciosa had the first store, the first school, the first post office and, incidentally, the first two homicides in the valley. Thomas Brookshire shot and killed F. Gregoria over some trouble they had in Brookshire's saloon. Coleman Stubblefield killed J. A. Allen on account of Allen's corralling some of Stubblefield's stock for trespassing. Both men were tried for murder and both were acquitted.

The abundance of water in this locality attracted the early settlers, and very soon all the land near the hills where the water was abundant was taken or squatted upon, and a voting precinct was established on the Hartnell land with the name of La Graciosa. This name was originally applied to the summit of the pass, but gradually spread to the entire district. Stock-raising and small farming was for several years the chief occupation. Later on the people became obsessed with the idea that this was the great fruit center of the valley, and many orchards were planted, largely apricots and prunes. Prunes proved a miserable failure and apricots only a partial success. Fruit has been virtually abandoned, and the name "Fruitvale," which had been given to the district, has passed out of mind. But riches untold slept in the hills, and a few of the pioneers were to realize them.

### Santa Maria City and Vicinity

The early settlers of the valley met with many difficulties. The dry seasons of 1870-71 and the ravages of grasshoppers made things very discouraging, and the long distance that grain had to be hauled, requiring two days for one trip, cut profits very small. Added to these were lack of schools and mail facilities. The mail was carried by stage from San Luis through the eastern part of the valley, going by way of Foxen cañon. There was no post office in the valley, but a place where mail could be left or picked up by the stage driver. The establishing of the post office at La Graciosa changed the stage route, but it still went through Foxen cañon until 1873, when stock farms built at Los Alamos caused the route to be changed to pass that way. The stage was held up many times south of La Graciosa, and many people believed that the postmaster stood in with the bandits. The first store in the central part of the valley was established by William L. Adam about two miles northeast of where the city of Santa Maria now stands. In 1874,

a wharf was built in the old and rugged vicinity of Point Sal, and the grain raised in the valley was delivered to steamers there. This wharf was washed away two years later, and another was built. A stock company was formed in 1879, and a chute landing was constructed at the Point. This proved to be a great saving to the farmers, but the steamship company wished to force the delivery of grain to another point and, by means unknown to the stockholders, induced the trustees to sell the chute to them, and it was demolished. The sale led to hard feelings for many years.

## A CHAPTER ON EDUCATION

During the Mexican control of Santa Barbara County very little attention was given to education. In the Historical and Biographical Record of Southern California, by J. M. Guinn, we find the only records, which are altered only in the phraseology.

The first school taught in Santa Barbara was opened in the October, 1795, by Jose Manuel Yoco, a young Spanish sailor. This school was continued periodically for two years. In December of 1798 the school was re-opened by Jose Medina, another Spanish sailor, who taught until June, 1799, and was succeeded for a few months by Manuel de Vargas, an ex-Spanish soldier. No other record of schools can be found until 1829, when one was opened at the presidio; but that lasted only a short time. In 1844 another effort was made, but failed; the teacher's name is not given.

In 1850 American influence caused the authorities of Santa Barbara to take over a private school that had been opened by Victor Vega, paying part of his salary. At a meeting of the council, November 8, 1851, Jose M. Covarrubias was appointed a committee to examine the school once a month. In November of 1852 three school commissioners were elected, one in each township—each township being a school district. In 1854, Joaquin Carrillo was elected school superintendent with a salary of six hundred dollars per year. He refused to qualify, and A. F. Hinchman was appointed to fill the vacancy. Hinchman was therefore the first county superintendent of schools in Santa Barbara County. On account of the low salary, Hinchman was not a candidate, and George Fisher was elected in 1855; he resigned, and John Kays was appointed in 1856. In 1857, J. S. Ord was elected, and he was succeeded by John Carlton in 1860. In 1863, Pablo de la Guerra was elected and served until 1867, when A. B. Thompson succeeded him. In 1871, J. P. Hamer was elected and filled the office until 1875, when, the salary having been increased to \$1,000 a year, men with better qualifications sought the office.

In 1865 there were two schools in Santa Barbara; one was taught in Spanish, and the other, in English. The English school was conducted by Owen Connolly. At the session of the legislature that year, a law was made providing that only English should be taught in schools drawing funds from the state. Gideon E. Thurmond was elected county superintendent in 1875 and occupied the office for twenty-four years. In 1898, W. S. Edwards defeated Thurmond after a hotly contested election, and was re-elected in 1902, but was defeated by Miss M. V. Lehner in 1906. Miss Lehner was

re-elected in 1910, defeating her opponent, L. O. Fox, by more than two to one. In 1914, Miss Lehner was opposed by Mrs. Muriel Edwards, a very accomplished lady from Santa Ynez, but was again re-elected by a large majority. Short biographical sketches of both Professor Thurmond and Miss Lehner will be found in this history.

### The Schools of the Santa Maria Valley

As soon as the first settlers of each part of the valley built their homes, they wanted schools for the children. The first district to be formed was La Graciosa. The schoolhouse was erected in 1869, about one mile north of the summit of the pass, and twenty years later a new building was built one mile north of the old one. When the town of Orcutt was formed and more room needed, the present two-room building was erected about a quarter of a mile east and the name was changed to Orcutt.

In 1870 the second district in the valley was organized and called Pine Grove on account of the schoolhouse being located near the pine groves that covered the hills. J. J. Holloway, who had been a petitioner for La Graciosa, was the first clerk of Pine Grove. In 1888 the site of the schoolhouse was moved one mile north, and the present building was erected. Pine Grove was for many years the strongest country district of the valley.

In June, 1873, two more districts were granted in the extreme west end of the valley. Guadalupe included the town of that name north to the river, west to the ocean, south to Casmalia line and east two miles. The other district was named Laguna, because it contained that beautiful and wonderfully formed lake. The schoolhouse was erected on the north side of the district on the road leading to La Graciosa from Guadalupe. After a few years, the greater number of people being much farther south, two of the trustees decided to move the house without legal formality. They made the necessary preparations, and on a Friday night moved the building one and one-half miles further south and had all things ready for school on Monday morning. The change of location was made in September, 1880. The house still stands on the place selected by them, and the only title to the land is forcible possession.

Pleasant Valley district was established in 1875, but lapsed in 1879. It was re-established in 1881 and continues at this time.

The sixth district organized in the valley is located on the Sisquoc river and was established in June, 1884, and named the Santa Maria. In 1891 the name was changed to Olive, as the name of Santa Maria was misleading.

Agricola district was organized in May, 1885; the late William L. Adam was the first clerk and held the office twelve years.

In 1876, La Graciosa district was divided, and a new one was formed by the north half, named Washington.

Los Alamos school is misleading in name, as it is situated at Harris station, seven miles from the town of Los Alamos. The district was formed in February, 1877, largely by the Careaga and Harris families, who owned nearly all the land in the district.

Suey district was organized in 1879, and included very little of the Suey ranch and none of Suey creek.

These ten schools were organized in ten years from the time the first settler came to the valley.



The school district in the present city of Santa Maria was formed in June, 1881, and named Central. Prior to that time it belonged to Pleasant Valley and Agricola districts. In 1891 the name was changed to Santa Maria.

In 1884 the Tepesquet was organized; and a district in Cat cañon named Oak Vale was also organized, although, after a series of years, it lapsed. In 1886 two new districts were granted, namely Casmalia and Martin. Garey district was formed in 1888; Bonita, in 1895, out of territory taken from Guadalupe, Agricola and Laguna districts.

In 1898 a new district was made from parts of Agricola, Washington and Pleasant Valley, and was named Allott. This name was changed to Lake View in 1900, and a new schoolhouse was erected about one mile south of the temporary building first used.

In 1895 two districts were formed in the Cuyama valley, but both of them lapsed in 1903. Cuyama was reorganized in 1915, and Wasioja in 1917.

The first of the oil-field districts, named Careaga, was granted in April, 1904, and now has two teachers. Betteravia district, on land owned by the Union Sugar Co., was formed in 1895. The Union Sugar Co. assumed all the cost of erecting the building and furnishing it. It is a very commodious and substantial structure; and there have been no bonds or taxes of any kind on the district.

In 1909 two more districts were formed in the oil belt: Blochman, in the Cat cañon fields; and Newlove, in the Santa Maria. The latter has a good two-room building, and the attendance has made such an increase that another room is needed. This is one of the most progressive schools in the valley.

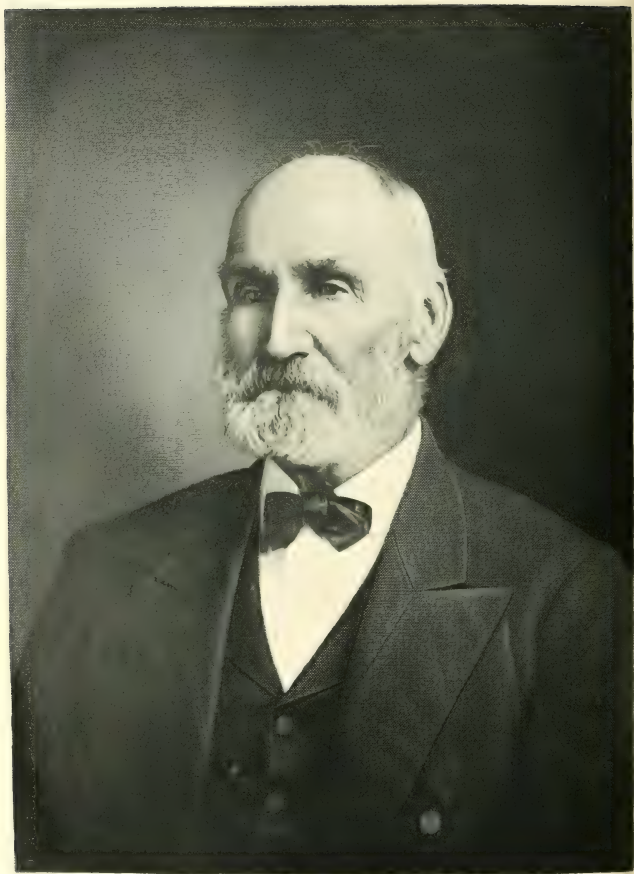
Ramona district is situated in Foxen cañon, and was formed in January, 1915.

Several other districts were made at different times, but all lapsed after a few years. All these districts, except Careaga, are in the Santa Maria Union High School district.

The high school district was formed in 1892 and has made steady but sure progress from the beginning, until it now ranks with the best in the entire state. The buildings are spacious and beautiful, and the grounds are kept in most excellent condition.

The Bell district at the town of Los Alamos, while not properly belonging geographically to the Santa Maria valley, should be included. The district was formed May 25, 1877, and received its name from the Bell ranch, which is a part of the Los Alamos grant. The district lapsed in 1879 and was re-established in 1881. It now has the best-arranged school building in the fifth supervisorial district.





*J. D. Anderson*

## BIOGRAPHICAL

### JOHN VINCENT ANTHONY

candidate for President of the United States

among the prominent people of Baltimore  
purchase goods for a brother who was

arrived in California that year  
about, he located in San Luis Obispo;  
government claim afterwards known

during which time many changes

ing himself a

e for these.

were killing  
so that the



## BIOGRAPHICAL

---

**JOHN PINCKNEY ANDREWS.**—In a very early period of American history a representative of the Andrews family became an important factor in governmental affairs, when Charles Colesworth Pinckney, the great-grandfather of John Pinckney Andrews, became a brigadier-general in the Continental Army for service in the War for Independence, and was a member of the convention that framed the constitution of the United States. He was a statesman, was minister to France in 1796, and was the Federalist candidate for President of the United States in 1804.

One of the most prominent citizens of San Luis Obispo County and a financier of more than ordinary ability, John Pinckney Andrews was born in Montgomery County, N. C., May 11, 1824. He received his education in the common schools there, and early in life displayed the evidences of a forceful character that was to be the foundation of his success in after life. During the years of his young manhood he was fond of society and was looked upon as one of the leaders of his section, and was well acquainted among the prominent people of Baltimore, where he visited frequently to purchase goods for a brother who was in the mercantile business in Montgomery County. In 1857, hearing the glowing tales of the opportunities offered in the West, he determined to avail himself of them, and accordingly arrived in California that year. After spending some time in looking about, he located in San Luis Obispo County in 1859, and settled on a government claim afterwards known as the Hasbrook place, and which is now known as the St. Raimie ranch. He remained there until 1869, during which time many changes were taking place. Those were the days of lawlessness, when often "might was right," and they were stirring times. Mr. Andrews was a fearless man, and many stories of him are told illustrative of his disposition. On one occasion, after he had settled on his land, he heard that a crowd was coming to drive him off, settlers not being desired at that time. Arming himself and his one assistant, he successfully withstood the invasion and thereafter was not molested.

In 1864 he was devoting his attention to the raising of cattle and hogs, and, although this was a dry year, he found it very profitable. Cattle everywhere were starving and could be bought at almost any price; so he purchased them, killed and boiled them and fed them to his hogs, later receiving a high price for these. At this time he had an arrangement with F. Z. Branch, who owned thousands of acres of land and a great number of cattle, to take the latter, give Mr. Branch the hides as pay, and keep the carcasses for feed. This arrangement was carried out, and Mr. Branch often remarked that it was "the only clean money" he received that year. His own vaqueros were killing and skinning the cattle as well; but they mutilated the hides so that they were almost worthless. At this period Mr. Branch received an offer of five dollars per head for all his stock, but

refused it, although urged by Mr. Andrews to accept. Had he done so, he would have saved many thousands of dollars; for his cattle nearly all died, so that he was able to gather only about six hundred head out of his thousands. The only money he got out of them was from the sale of the hides. Mr. Andrews also purchased one hundred steers for two hundred dollars, fattened them, and disposed of them for over twenty-five dollars a head that same year, these being the only fat cattle to be had at that time.

He later disposed of his equity in this land, and purchased the home near San Luis Obispo called the "Andrews Place," where he lived until, a few years before his death, he sold out and moved into town.

Mr. Andrews was a pioneer dairyman of this section, for he was the first man to devote any attention to this now most important industry. He was also the first man to devote any attention to the bee industry, paying fifty dollars each for the first stands, and continuing his interest and study until 1869. Mr. Andrews later became one of the largest sheep men in the county, running large bands on the Huasna for a time, later carrying on the business nearer San Luis Obispo on the Santa Lucia range until he sold out. In 1877, another dry year, he managed to bring about four thousand head through in good condition, his son, George H., remaining with them and caring for them during the entire year, with the aid of two helpers. Mr. Andrews acquired a large stock ranch, starting with six hundred forty acres purchased from H. M. Warden, and adding from time to time as he had opportunity until he owned twenty-three hundred acres where he ranged his sheep and which he sold in 1884.

In 1873 Mr. Andrews, with C. H. Phillips, R. G. Flint, John Biddle, Phillip Biddle and H. M. Warden, organized the Bank of San Luis Obispo, and in 1877 he became its managing director and president, continuing until 1890. From 1890 to 1893 he was president of the County Bank. In the latter year he organized the Andrews Banking Company and was its controlling stockholder and dominating factor. In 1899, during the financial stringency, his institution was one of the few that took care of its clients and closed the year profitably. John Pinckney Andrews headed the banking house bearing his name from the date of its organization until January 21, 1913, when he was succeeded by his oldest son, George H. Andrews, who directed the bank's affairs in the same conservative channels that established the bank in the confidence of the entire community until its sale to the Commercial Bank that same year. In 1883, Mr. Andrews headed a stock company known as the San Luis Hotel Co., and erected a hotel called the Andrews Hotel, in his honor, on the corner of Monterey and Osos streets, which was opened to the public under the management of Ned Morris, and was later conducted by Sharp Bros. This was a frame building, and one of the finest in the city at that time. In 1885 the building and contents were completely destroyed by fire. Eventually Mr. Andrews acquired the interests of the other stockholders in the lot, and then began a building era which he alone managed and financed until the whole of the property he owned in that block was covered with brick buildings.

Mr. Andrews, while being recognized as a capable financier, was always known by his friends to be charitably inclined, as well as public-spirited. He and Ernest Cerf were the donors to the county of the present courthouse building, which stands on the ground upon which the Court Grammar

School is located, with a clause that it could be used for no other purpose, or it must revert to the estate. He was a man of great force and iron will. Energy and tireless industry marked his career, and his whole life was one of pronounced effect upon the business history of San Luis Obispo. With the co-operation of the Steele Bros. and other public-spirited citizens, Mr. Andrews organized the Sixteenth Agricultural District Association, and at once subscribed eight hundred dollars to start the fund to erect the pavilion. When the organization failed at a later date, he was one of the heaviest losers. Success usually followed all his undertakings and he was ever a willing supporter of all movements for progress. For many years he was the mainstay of the local Methodist Church South, to which he donated the lot; and it was mainly through his efforts that the building was erected after the organization of the congregation in San Luis Obispo. He was unostentatious with his benefactions and never let his right hand know what his left hand did. He was loyal to his friends; and even his enemies (common to every man who makes a success of life) respected him, some of them in after years becoming his very warm friends.

He was a great hunter in the earlier period of settlement of the county, when wild game of all kinds abounded; and he was a sure shot as well.

In 1860 he was united in marriage in Lake County, California, with Miss Tennessee Amanda Cheney, a native of Arkansas, who passed away in 1900. Her parents were farming people, natives of Tennessee, who crossed the plains in the early fifties to California, stopped for a time in Solano, Lake and San Luis Obispo counties, where the father engaged in farming, and finally settled in Los Angeles county, where the parents both passed their last days. Thirteen children came to bless this union, seven of whom are now living: Mrs. Alice V. Morton, of San Gabriel; George H. Andrews and Mrs. Mary E. Rideout, of San Luis Obispo; David, of Pomona; Mrs. Martha Murphy, of San Luis Obispo; and Le Roy F. and Jerome P., both of Pismo. Another daughter, Mrs. Carrie Brew, grew to maturity, married, had several children and passed away in 1900. They struggled side by side to gain a foothold during the pioneer days in the county, Mrs. Andrews doing her full share and bravely enduring the hardships and privations encountered in their efforts to win success, and to rear their children to useful lives.

**HORATIO MOORE WARDEN.**—The late Horatio Moore Warden was regarded as one of the most influential and public-spirited citizens of San Luis Obispo County and is entitled to a prominent place in the annals of this section of the state. He was born near Granville, Licking county, O., in 1828, a son of Gabriel and Mary (Seely) Warden, natives of Burlington, Vt., and the tenth child in a family of eleven children. He was descended from English ancestry. A member of the family emigrated to this country at an early period in its history, settling in Vermont; and from that ancestor the family in this country have sprung. Members of the Warden family have been prominent in various branches of business and professional life for generations. Gabriel Warden served as a captain in the War of 1812, was a man of great valor and patriotism, and soon after the war was over settled in Ohio, where he cleared a farm and engaged in agricultural pursuits until his death. Both he and his wife passed away in Licking county.

In 1847, Horatio M. Warden became associated with his brother, L. M. Warden, in the buying and selling of cattle, which he drove in large numbers to Chicago, then a small settlement on the frontier, and the headquarters of



a detachment of United States soldiers at Fort Sheridan. In 1850, the Warden brothers started across the plains for California. They drove a band of cattle and horses as far as Council Bluffs, Ia., where they exchanged them for mules, which they drove to Salt Lake. En route they met and traveled with Tom Williams, a prominent Mormon, carrying the Salt Lake mail; and on arrival at Salt Lake, they were entertained and shown every courtesy, for the three weeks of their stay there, to recuperate and rest. They left Salt Lake with a train of pack mules, crossed the desert without difficulty and in due time arrived in Hangtown—now Placerville—where they mined with the usual results. Later they went to Michigan Bluff on the American river and mined for a time; and there they struck it rich for a while.

Mr. Warden and his brother next went to Sacramento, where he organized a stage line between Sacramento and Marysville, operating it for some time very successfully. He next established the line between Auburn, Yankee Jim's, Michigan Bluff, Illinois Town and Iowa Hill in Placer county, carrying on the stage business until he and his brother went to Napa county in 1856. Here they engaged in the stock business, meeting with a fair degree of success, although they had their reverses as well.

In 1867, H. M. Warden came to San Luis Obispo County, settled in the Los Osos valley, and purchased about three thousand acres of land, part of the Los Osos grant. Here he raised sheep for several years, having as many as six thousand head. Later he worked into the cattle business; and under the name of the Highland Rancho, his property became well-known throughout the entire coast section of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. The large dairy interests were the leading features for some years, and were conducted with much profit. As much as six thousand pounds of butter per month was made from the three dairies maintained on his ranch. Grain and hay were raised in large quantities. Mr. Warden believed in high-grade stock, and his Durhams and shorthorns were mostly registered. He did much to elevate the grade of cattle throughout this section of the county; for others saw that it did not cost any more to keep good stock than poor, and in many cases followed his example. He was essentially a stockman, and his cattle, horses and hogs were his pride and profit. He studied the dairy business and added many innovations as he succeeded with his enterprise.

It must not be supposed that Mr. Warden devoted his time to the ranching interests to the exclusion of other matters. He was a man of large business acumen, was much interested in the cause of education and in the establishment of churches, and believed that these two factors fostered a better citizenship and a higher moral standard. He served as a trustee of schools for many years, and with two other trustees gave personal notes which rendered possible the erection of one of the first schoolhouses in the county, and the establishment of a school, serving as its trustee for years. With C. H. Phillips and others, Mr. Warden organized and started the first bank in San Luis Obispo in 1872, under the name of Warden & Phillips, he serving as president and Mr. Phillips as cashier; and for many years they carried on a very successful banking business. In 1898, Mr. Warden erected the Warden block in San Luis Obispo, then the most modern block in the town, and still in the possession of his family. Besides this, he owned several parcels of valuable real estate in town.





*Luigi Marri*

country, striving to bring out its latent resources for the general welfare of the people, and seeks to advance the interests of and whoever, in the course of a long life, advances the

public benefactor, and is entitled to mention on the pages of history. Such was the character of Mr. Marre. He was a native of Italy, and

energy not a little of the state's development may be attributed

The story of the life of Mr. Marre is one of interest to narrate it, the scenes which he witnessed during his sojourn in California, the hardships that he endured and the obstacles that he would make a large volume. His career dates from 1834 when he was born in Borzonasca, province of Genova, Italy. His father, Marre, a hotel keeper, butcher and drover in that same province. His father was a soldier, and fought in the

company who enlisted for military service and took part in the battle of Waterloo, he was one of but three survivors who returned.

Luigi Marre obtained a college education in Italy, after which, in 1854, then a stalwart youth, of large, fine physique, alert, active and unusually intelligent, he set out for far-off California to dig for gold. His principal equipment consisted of a pick with which his father presented him (which pick is still in the possession of Caesuch Brothers, in San Francisco), with the instruction to rely upon it and, should it fail him, to apply to his consul for passage back to the old home. His parents were wealthy, and Mr. Marre obtained his father's permission to come to this country solely on the condition that he would never work for wages and that he would return home in three years. His father having died before the three years were up, Luigi never returned to his native land; but the promise not to work for wages he faithfully kept, and remained his own master. The time he left his father until he died. He came to California by sea, via New York and Panama, and landed in San Francisco.



*[Faint, illegible handwritten text]*

He was a staunch Republican, a member of the county central committee and a factor in the councils of the party in the state. He served as supervisor from his district in 1880, and in 1886 was the unanimous choice of his party for the Assembly. He was also a delegate to county and state conventions. He was a Mason and member of King David Lodge No. 209, F. & A. M., San Luis Obispo; and was an Odd Fellow, passing all the chairs of the order. He was very public-spirited, supporting all movements for the upbuilding of the county, and gave \$1500 towards bringing the railroad into the county. Of his marriage in 1882 with Miss Queenie Parr, three children were born, Queenie M., Horatio M., Jr., and Mary Loraine, who died March 17, 1902. Mr. Warden died on February 14, 1912, and his passing meant the loss of a very prominent citizen to the state and the county of his adoption.

**LUIGI MARRE.**—Whoever labors to secure the development of his country, striving to bring out its latent resources; whoever is devoted to the general welfare of the people, and seeks to promote the cause of justice; and whoever, in the course of a long life, advances, directly or indirectly, our commercial, educational and agricultural growth: he it is who earns a place as a public benefactor, and is entitled to mention in the pages of history. Such was the character and such is the record of Luigi Marre, one of the early pioneers of California, and one to whose determination, perseverance and energy not a little of the state's development may be attributed.

The story of the life of Mr. Marre is one of interest and, were he alive to narrate it, the scenes which he witnessed during his active career in California, the hardships that he endured and the obstacles that he surmounted, would make a large volume. His career dates from August 7, 1840, when he was born in Borzonasca, province of Genova, Italy, a son of Lorenzo Marre, a hotel keeper, butcher and drover in that same province. His father was a soldier under Napoleon for eleven years, and of forty men in the company who enlisted for military service and took part in the battle of Waterloo, he was one of but three survivors who returned.

Luigi Marre obtained a college education in Italy, after which, on March 26, 1854, then a stalwart youth, of large, fine physique, alert, active and unusually intelligent, he set out for far-off California to dig for gold. His principal equipment consisted of a pick with which his father presented him (which pick is still in the possession of Cacsineli Brothers, in San Andreas), with the instruction to rely upon it and, should it fail him, to apply to his consul for passage back to the old home. His parents were wealthy, and Mr. Marre obtained his father's permission to come to this country solely on the condition that he would never work for wages and that he would return home in three years. His father having died before the three years were up, Luigi never returned to his native land; but the promise not to work for wages he faithfully kept, and remained his own master from the time he left his father until he died. He came to California on a sailing vessel, via New York and Panama, and landed in San Francisco on May 26, 1854. He understood no other language than Italian; but his keen wits stood him in good stead, and he often recounted with zest that his first effort at bettering his condition was a horse speculation, in which he bought an animal for seventeen dollars and sold it for fifty-three.

Shortly after his arrival in San Francisco, with his trusty pick, Mr. Marre departed for the mining camps in Penitta, Amador county. For three years he toiled with great perseverance, meeting with the many hard-

ships then endured by miners; and at the end of the three years, somewhat discouraged with the fruitless mining life, he decided to follow his commercial instincts. He went to Calaverites in Calaveras county, then a small village squatted on the desert at the very edge of a range of barren foothills. Its principal street was not much more than a bridle trail that led past a few cabins, derelicts of old mining days when that region knew gold. Immediately upon his arrival there he purchased a general merchandise store, and for the next year he devoted himself with more or less success to this business. He then sold out and went to Calaveras, where he bought a butcher shop. The man who sold to him at once went on the opposite side of the street from his place of business, contrary to their agreement, and opened an opposition establishment, thereby cutting into his trade; and during the three years he carried on the business it took almost all of his resources to keep above water, although his opponent failed six months before Mr. Marre sold out and went to El Dorado, where he continued in the butcher business, and at the same time engaged in handling cattle.

In 1861 his affairs took him to Nevada, at that time a great field for enterprise; but the Indians were troublesome and dangerous, and that obstacle, followed by the dry season of 1864, made his losses heavy. However, that was only an incident. In 1870 he sold out his interests in El Dorado, but still continued in the cattle business. He drove cattle from the Mexican border to San Francisco and Nevada, where his cattle were cared for, given pasture, and protected from the other tribes by a friendly Indian chief. Mr. Marre was almost continuously in the saddle, and owned some fine saddle horses. In early days, when he made his long trips, he would have his own mount and another horse, on which he packed his provisions, blankets and his faithful dog. His horses and dog were well trained, and he often said that they frequently saved his life, not making a sound when danger threatened, but in other ways, as by nudgings or caresses, warning him. He had many thrilling escapes from death at the hands of bandits and murderers, for he always had to carry large sums of gold about his person to pay for the stock he bought; and many a night he was only too glad to take off his belt, filled with twenty-dollar gold pieces, and throw it into the brush, after which he would lie down on his blanket and sleep. In dealing with the ignorant stockmen, he had only to drive out an animal and pass over a twenty-dollar gold piece, even if the beast was worth more than that price, for the natives could count in twenties and nothing else. He was a man of commanding appearance, over six feet tall and weighing over three hundred pounds, and was noted for his bravery and absolute fearlessness.

From El Dorado Mr. Marre went to Santa Clara county, where he leased the Los Agelos Rancho and stocked it with cattle. Three years before his lease in Santa Clara county expired, he rented the Le Roy property, which was formerly the Zaca grant of thirty thousand acres. He stocked that ranch with fourteen thousand cattle and many sheep, having at one time as many as thirty thousand of the latter, and there continued successfully the business of buying and selling cattle and sheep. At one time, to diminish his stock during one of the dry years, he sold a thousand head of cattle for \$20,000. This sacrifice had to be repeated several times during the dry seasons.

In 1879 he leased the Pecho Rancho in San Luis Obispo county for eighteen years. In 1882 he bought, from John Harford, the San Miguelita ranch of several thousand acres. Later he purchased the Pecho Rancho of

thirty-eight hundred acres, and still later, twenty-five hundred acres of the Avila estate from the San Luis Bank, still retaining his property in Santa Barbara county. He became one of the largest stockmen of Central California, as well as the wealthiest man in San Luis Obispo County. He was known, in fact, as the cattle king of the central coast section. He had extensive dealings with Miller & Lux, and with other large stockmen in the state, and was known as a man whose word, when once given, was as good as his bond.

Mr. Marre opened the Fulton Market in San Luis Obispo, purchasing the property from the Steele brothers; and in 1893 he also started the Nevada Market. In 1884 he erected the first hotel at Port Harford, now known as Port San Luis. He was one of the most public-spirited men the county ever had, was always an advocate of all progressive movements, gave land to widen Chorro, Marsh and Monterey streets, when those improvements were started, and spent almost a month of his valuable time in convincing other owners of property on those streets of the benefits to be derived therefrom. When the Southern Pacific Railroad was prospected to San Luis Obispo, he donated \$10,000 towards the cause; and later he had the distinction of riding on the first train from San Luis Obispo to San Jose. Not a movement that had for its object the betterment of conditions of the people or county but received his hearty support. He gave towards all churches, no matter what their creed; was a stanch advocate of good schools and did what he could to maintain them and bring them to a high standard; and no one ever appealed to him in vain for any worthy charity. He was active up to the time of his death, shortly before which he delivered a lot of cattle to Horn & Sons in San Francisco, when he caught cold, took sick, and died, February 8, 1903, mourned by rich and poor alike.

On April 28, 1881, the marriage uniting Luigi Marre with Miss Angela L. Marre was celebrated. She was born in 1851, in the same part of Italy as was her husband; and seven children blessed this union, only three of whom are now living: Gasper O., born May 22, 1884, who married and has one son, Norman O.; Louis J., born September 26, 1886; and Rosa J., born April 29, 1896, the wife of S. Piuma and the mother of one son, Milton S. The widow lives at the old home, surrounded by her children and grandchildren; and there she is enjoying every comfort possible. She is a most interesting conversationalist, recounting the many stories of early pioneer days as depicted by her husband, and is one of the most generous women in the county, aiding every worthy movement and happy in the knowledge that her husband was one of the most popular and best-liked men in this part of the state, who left to his descendants not only riches, but the heritage of an untarnished name.

In 1914 the holdings of the Luigi Marre estate were incorporated under the name of the Luigi Marre Land & Cattle Co.; and the water company, that he started in 1886 to supply with fresh water such ships as called at the port, was also incorporated, under the name of the Fay Water Company. The property owned by the corporation has a frontage on the ocean of twelve miles, and comprises thousands of acres; and as the years have passed, this property, under the able management of the sons, Gasper O. and Luis J., has greatly increased in value. The oil tanks, where tank ships come to load oil, are located on the property, and the revenue derived from this enterprise represents a handsome sum in itself. On the San Miguelita ranch, where Mr. Marre settled years ago, he planted some chestnuts brought from his old home place in Italy; and seven trees grew therefrom and are in fine con-

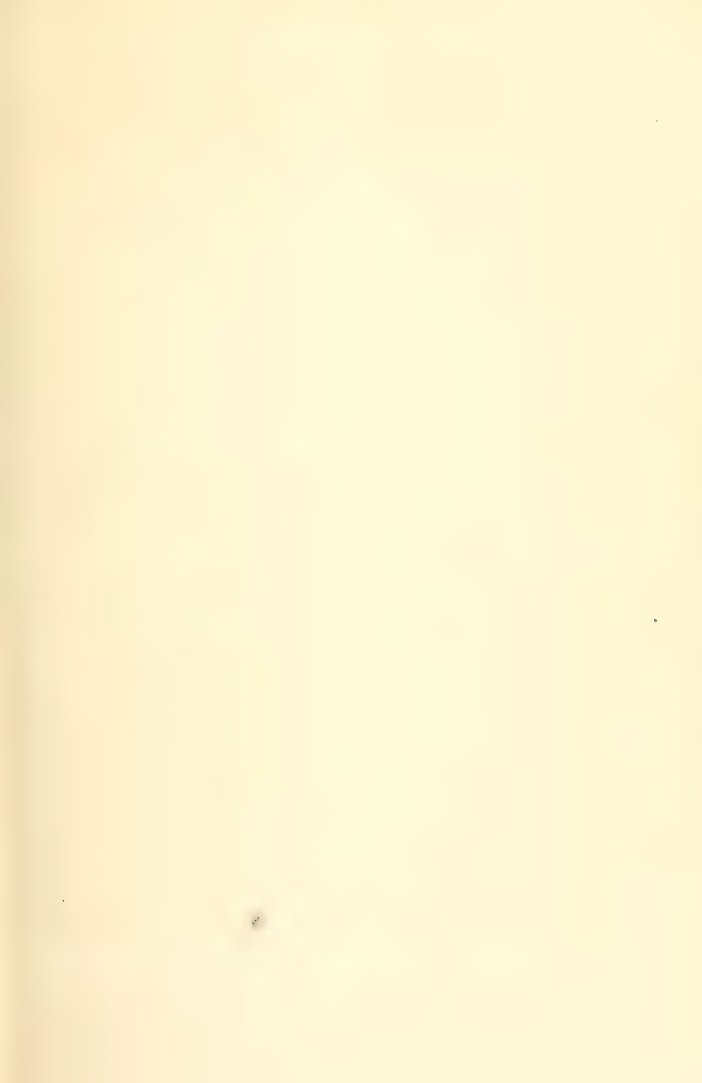


dition, being the only ones of their kind in this part of the country. An old landmark on the Pecho Rancho is an old adobe house, the woodwork of which was brought around the Horn at an early day by Captain Wilson, then the owner of the place. It is said that Mr. Marre shipped from San Luis Obispo the largest consignment of stock ever sent out at one time by one man, consisting of three solid train loads.

The family are highly respected, hospitable and public-spirited, and have an ever-widening circle of friends throughout the entire central section of California.

**MRS. QUEENIE WARDEN.**—It gives a feeling of pride to know that one is a descendant of ancient and noble lineage, although Americans usually glory in their own ideals. However, the satisfaction of knowing the honorable achievements of our ancestors gives us something to live up to, and such is the case with Mrs. Queenie Warden, one of the most prominent, charitable, public-spirited, energetic and progressive women of San Luis Obispo, widow of the late Hon. Horatio M. Warden, and a daughter of Mrs. Loraine (Page) Parr. Mrs. Warden was born in Iowa, in which state her parents settled when that was the frontier, before railroads traversed the expanse of prairie in the Middle West. She is a descendant of English ancestry through the Page family. One John Page, a son of Richard Page, who had lived in London, left Yarmouth April 8, 1630, with his wife Phoebe and their three children on the "Jewell," arriving in Salem, Mass. He moved to Charlestown, and then to the peninsula now occupied by the city of Boston. He later moved to Watertown, about seven miles distant, where he died December 18, 1676, aged about ninety. From this progenitor, the family in America have originated, and they have become prominent in agricultural, professional, financial, military, literary and social affairs. The motto of the Page family, printed in Latin on their coat of arms, "Spe Labor Levis," meaning "Hope lightens labor," has been used by the family for centuries.

Mrs. Queenie Warden was educated in a convent in Davenport, Iowa, came to California first in 1876 as a tourist, and remained one year. In 1879 she became a permanent resident of the state, spent a short time in Grass valley, and then came to San Luis Obispo County, where she has since lived, and which section has been the scene of her activities. Through her marriage in 1882 with Horatio M. Warden, she has been enabled to accomplish much good for the community, and has entered heartily into every movement that has had for its object the building up of the county and city. She is a leader in social affairs, and through her membership in the Civic Club, as president of which she has served for two terms, she has wielded an influence for the betterment of local conditions in San Luis Obispo. She is also a member of the City Club in Los Angeles. In 1898 the H. M. Warden interests were incorporated, and she became president, a position she has held ever since, managing the company's affairs with splendid executive and business ability. In May, 1916, Mrs. Warden entered into the local business field by her purchase of the People's Pharmacy, located in the H. M. Warden, Jr., building; and having increased the stock, she is gradually building up a large and successful business, which receives her personal attention. As the "Rexall Store," this establishment has become an important factor in the commercial life of San Luis Obispo County, and its owner a successful business woman.





*F. H. Caraga*      *Maria Antonia Caraga*

judge of San Luis Obispo County, and they have two

Lilly; and they have three children, all sons: Herbert, M., III.,

and

and

pathetic companion and guide; she has controlled with a strong, but tender hand; she has been sympathetic without being weak, kind without condescension—an earnest, wise and unostentatious benefactor, whose benefactions have left no sting; and in all good works she has modestly taken an im-

**RAMON F. CAREAGA.**—For many generations the Careaga family has been distinguished in California not only for its participation in the gradual development of the state, but because it is one of the important historical links between Castilian Spain and the flourishing colonies which her prophetic vision and unbounded energy planted in the New World. The earliest Careaga of whom we have record as a direct forebear of this esteemed family, was a Spanish nobleman born in medieval Castile and sent to Mexico as a military

Careaga, also a soldier, who came from Mexico to Northern Monterey when he was but seventeen years old. He was a member of Captain Munoz's command, and with all the chivalry ever characteristic of the C risked his life and sacrificed his comfort to protect the dependent San Jose Mission. His son, who died on February 7, 1914, was Ramon F. Careaga, a handsome and splendidly preserved gentleman, who could look back to many stirring events in which he had participated, or of which his father, in the good old days when the Spanish Dons gathered their children about them, had told him as a part of the cherished family tradition. There were personal anecdotes about Governor Portola, and the expedition to Monterey; there were recollections of Pio Pico, Echeandia, Micheltorena, Castro, Flores, Juan Bandini, Abel Stearns and finally of Fremont and Stockton, with all of whom and their contemporaries the Careagas had had much to do, first in fighting for Spain and then for Mexico, and ultimately in helping to build up young America on the Coast.

With a brother, Juan B. Careaga, also born in Monterey county, and Daniel Harris, Ramon bought about eighteen thousand acres of the old rancho, to erect prominently in the state history; and later, in

and

and

and

being interest

and

asphalt—an intruder on the surface of the rich soil which would have been most unwelcome had not the experience of the intelligent observer recognized in the dark substance just the coveted indications of rich oil deposits. It was not long before that which was assumed and hoped to be true was proven a certainty, and then Ramon and Juan B. entered into the lease referred to, the Western Union being a corporation of Los Angeles capitalists. On March 14, 1900, the new promoters began to build the great rig for well No. 1, and soon struck oil; but some insurmountable difficulty was soon encountered, and the well had to be abandoned. A similar experience was met in the attempt to sink well No. 2; but nothing daunted, the riggers and drillers moved farther up the cañon and soon had, in well No. 3, such a flow of oil that at last the precious liquid was obtained in paying quantities. The long-awaited-for event was duly celebrated by a big barbecue, for which the hospitable Careagas furnished four of their choicest beeves, the meat being taken of by hundreds of enthusiastic visitors.

Amid all the festivities characteristic of the social life in a family of such ancient traditions, Ramon F. Careaga was married to Miss Maria A. Bonevantur, the daughter of Monsieur Bernardo Bonevantur, who had come from France and married Albina Boronda, a charming member of one of the very early pure Castilian families of Monterey. After her husband's death, the wife moved to San Jose, where she is enjoying life at the comfortable age of sixty-three. The parents had eleven children; and having been blessed with enduring blood, all are still living and are useful members of the society in which they move. Luis S. Careaga is married and resides at Santa Barbara with his accomplished wife, Mercedes Orella. Ramon A. Careaga, the representative of the Panama Realty Co., of San Jose, and one of the well-known men on the San Jose Exchange, married Miss Cora Riley, and resides with her and his two children, Ramon F. and Alberto J., in a cosy home at San Jose. John T. Careaga, who is in partnership in the real estate business with Ramon, also resides in that town, having married Miss Alberta Roe, by whom he had one child, Adelbert. Miss Eleanor M. Careaga became the wife of John Carr and the mother of two sons, John F. and Leland; and that happy family resides on the Careaga ranch. Another resident on the ranch is Bernardo F. Careaga, who married Miss Gussie Hawkins, and is the proud father of two children, William B. and Eugene F., each of whom displays some of the characteristics of the Hawkins family. Antonio F. Careaga resides with his mother at San Jose; James F. is a farmer and stockman, who lives on a ranch, and Charles M. resides on the Northwest oil lease of the Careaga ranch near Bicknell, and looks after the oil and gas interests of the estate. He married Miss J. Hawkins, one of the most popular daughters of Santa Barbara, and still one of the most beautiful women for miles around, and a hostess who charms with her cordiality; and by her he has a child, named Durward. Three daughters, Rita I., Evangeline, and Angeline, are residing at San Jose with the mother, and attending the famous Notre Dame Catholic School.

Mr. Careaga was interested in educational affairs and gave land for two school sites on his property. He was generous, and allowed many of those who had worked for him, and grown old in the service, to settle on some of his land and live in comfort the remainder of their days. At this time there is but one of these employees still remaining, the others having passed away.

Besides the great royalties which flow into the coffers of the Careaga family, through the oil and the gas flowing in unlimited quantities from their subterranean sources, the Careagas enjoy an income from leasing out their other lands to tenants, and from other sources, such as would handsomely finance many a European nobleman. Many cattle are raised by them, and stock and farm products are supplied in large quantities to the market. In 1916, the family realized over one hundred thousand dollars through the cultivation and sale of beans alone.

**JOHN JAMES HOLLOWAY.**—Probably the oldest and one of the best-posted settlers now living in Los Alamos, and one who enjoys a broad, liberal education, is John James Holloway, the son of the man who brought some of the first trotting horses and Durham cattle to California. His father, a native of Kentucky, was John Holloway, a farmer, who specialized in government contracts in connection with the improvement of rivers and harbors and the building of roads and bridges. His mother, whose maiden name was Nancy K. Foster, was born in North Carolina. His parents were married near Winchester, Scott county, Ill., after which they removed to Benton county, Mo., where the father improved a farm. About 1850, John Holloway fitted out two wagons, each having from three to six yoke of oxen, and, with about sixty head of cattle and a few horses, joined a train of twenty-five wagons setting out from Warsaw, Missouri, and started for the Pacific Coast.

Arriving at Hangtown, near Placerville, he soon after made a settlement near Wheatland, on the Bear river, in Sutter county, and there engaged in farming and stock-raising. He became noted as a trader, and was as popular as when he had been made captain of Company E, of the Missouri Mounted Volunteers, in the Mexican War. Soon after he had started farming at Wheatland, he went back to Missouri for horses and cattle; for, having been born a Kentuckian, he was a good stockman and horseman, brought up among the best types of shorthorn cattle and trotting horses, among which may be mentioned the celebrated trotter, Glencoe Chief, a well-known race-horse in California. Upon his return, his father was drowned in Green river, in Utah, none of the family being then with him. An assistant had become drunk, and the elder Holloway attempted to make a second trip across the river to bring back his cattle and horses. The boat on which the horses and cattle were loaded tipped over and the rancher was drawn under with his stock. A notable man in his day, John Holloway counted many early pioneers as his friends, among them Waldo, Hearst, Huntington, Fair and others.

The mother managed to keep the little family together and to increase its herds and droves; and in 1868 came with her son, John James Holloway (who had been born in Benton county, Mo., two miles west of Warsaw, January 26, 1839), to the Santa Maria valley, bringing the first full-blooded Durham cattle ever seen here. After a year, they removed to Cat Canyon, or the Cañada Gato, where they pre-empted a hundred sixty acres and homesteaded a hundred sixty more, the whole tract now owned by Jacob Williams; and while living there they bought the La Brea ranch, which was later sold to G. W. Goodchild. In his early years John James attended a private school conducted by Professor Gow, an Eastern college graduate, who afterwards conducted the private academy at Indian Springs, Nevada county, reputed to be one of the best in the state; and later he went to school at Saer

mento. A memory of his early days is that of the first railway running from Sacramento to Folsom, which passed in front of the Holloways' door.

In 1885, John James Holloway's mother died here at the age of seventy-five, the mother of four children. Besides John James, there was a daughter, Millie Ann Holloway, who was born on Washington's birthday, 1833, and who married C. G. Heath, and died on the Blochman ranch, leaving seven children. A son was Thomas Jefferson Holloway, now living in Los Angeles, at the age of eighty; and another son was William Houston Holloway, who resides at Bakersfield, having passed his three score and thirteenth year.

John James was twice married. In 1870, at Santa Maria, he wedded Miss Rebecca T. Miller, the second stepdaughter of Joel Miller, who took up the first homestead in the Santa Maria valley; and of this union five children were born. Lucy E. resides at Pomona, Los Angeles county, the wife of W. D. McCroskey; Dora B. is the wife of John T. Glines, a teacher in the Bell school at Los Alamos; Albert Johnson is a rancher living at Los Alamos; Everett P. was drowned in an old, open well; and James W. is a large rancher residing at Lompoc. The second marriage of Mr. Holloway, in September, 1884, united him with Sarah, oldest daughter of Joel Miller, then the widow of James Linebaugh, of Santa Rosa, by whom she had three children, Eva Linebaugh, David and James. The latter married Mrs. Elizabeth Mirely, and resides at Los Angeles, the father of one child, Dorothy, and the valued employee of the City Water Company. By her marriage with Mr. Holloway she had four children: Charlotte, who is at home; Carl, who married Miss Mildred Wilson, and resides near Orcutt, on property occupied by the Pinal-Dome Oil Company, their home being blessed by two children, Keith and Doris; Cornell, who died when he was twelve years old; and Frank, who runs the farm. Seven years after his second marriage, Mr. Holloway came to Los Alamos and bought from S. T. Coiner, of Santa Maria, his present ranch of thirty-one acres.

Knowing both his preparation for responsibility as a man of affairs, and his actual experience in disposing of important interests entrusted to his care, it is not surprising to find that Mr. Holloway has had considerable to do with public or official life. For twelve years he was school trustee of the Oak Vale school district, the school having first been started in the front room of his home, and he was also trustee of the Bell school district of Los Alamos. He served as deputy assessor in 1876, under Assessor Garretson. A consistent Democrat, he was a member of the Democratic county central committee in 1869, and on June 21 went as a delegate to the Democratic convention at Santa Barbara. Since that time he has been a familiar figure in Democratic councils. To advance the State Highway and the cause of good roads, he went before the board of supervisors years ago and advocated a trunk road through Gaviota Pass, a project now being realized by the building of the State Highway over exactly that course.

Notwithstanding advanced sociological views, Mr. Holloway is nevertheless decidedly an advocate of Christianity, being a member of the Christian Church. The first Protestant sermon preached north of Gaviota was delivered in Mr. Holloway's home, in November, 1869, the preacher being the Rev. Mr. Miller, a pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church.







*L. Yack*

with her contribution towards making California history good, who died where he had lived, esteemed by all living, no doubt, to his daughter, some of those personal characteristics as long been a resident. Her mother was Janet McBurne, a native

born married twice, and had by his first wife five sons and a daughter, by his second wife a son, David, and two girls: Margaret, wife of the author of this review, and Christine, of this review. David was born in Scotland, led the public school in his village, and at the age of seven sailed for the ocean to New York, where he secured a position as bookkeeper with the firm of Flood, Mackay & O'Brien. Six years later he made for California via Panama, and at Monterey again took up bookkeeping. He acquired some land and became a farmer and stockman, and soon owned several large tracts in various parts of Monterey county. He settled in Monterey, where he died at the ripe age of eighty years. Mr. Jack married and was blessed with seven children, all of whom are living. In 1857 he was able to revisit Scotland and see his boyhood home. As a Presbyterian and a Republican he made his contribution to the bettering of both religious and political conditions in the country of his adoption.

In 1860, her parents having both died, Miss Jack joined her brother in California, travelling by way of New York, from which she sailed on the steamer "Caledonia," bound for the Isthmus of Panama.

For a time with her brother at Monterey, when she bought a ranch at Josephine, in San Luis Obispo County, operating it for twenty years. She made a large stock ranch of her possessions, raising Shorthorn Durham cattle. She had a dairy of forty-five cows, and churned three times a week, turning out in a hundred pounds of butter at each churning. The milk was skimmed by hand, Miss Jack doing all the work herself. Such was the quality of her butter that it was rated as the best in the San Francisco market; and such, too, was the care that she gave her cows that each knew her voice and would come to her. A mile away from her nearest neighbor, she never suffered from loneliness; for she cooked and did all the work required in the ranch house, even to washing and scrubbing. She was very busy, undertaking, in addition, to raise

her family. In 1880, suffering from rheumatism, Miss Jack nine years ago sold her ranch and moved to Red Bluff Hot Springs, and there she has remained, for since then, working her ranch, some fourteen hundred acres. She discovered a quicksilver mine

on the ranch, and in a retort and a furnace, one morning, threw a piece of iron into it and fell a disc



*W. H. H.*

**MISS CHRISTINE JACK.**—Just what a woman can do when she inherits the thrift of the Old World and Scotch energetic sturdiness is shown in the interesting story of the life of Miss Christine Jack, particularly that part which has to do with her contribution towards making California history. She was born at Creiff, Perthshire, Scotland, the daughter of William Jack, who first saw the light of day at Strathallen, in the same shire—a plain man, a dealer in wood, who died where he had lived, esteemed by all who knew him, bequeathing, no doubt, to his daughter, some of those personal characteristics which have contributed to make her so popular in Paso Robles, where she has long been a resident. Her mother was Janet McCune, a native of the Scottish Highlands and a woman of rare attainments and worth. William Jack married twice, and had by his first wife five sons and a daughter, and by his second wife a son, David, and two girls: Margaret, who died in early childhood, and Christine, of this review. David was born in 1826, attended the public school in his village, and at the age of seventeen crossed the ocean to New York, where he secured a position as bookkeeper with the firm of Flood, Mackay & O'Brien. Six years later he made for California via Panama, and at Monterey again took up bookkeeping. He acquired some land and became a farmer and stockman, and soon owned several large tracts in various parts of Monterey county. He settled in Monterey, where he died at the ripe age of eighty years. Mr. Jack married and was blessed with seven children, all of whom are living. In 1857 he was able to revisit Scotland and see his boyhood home. As a Presbyterian and a Republican he made his contribution to the bettering of both religious and political conditions in the country of his adoption.

In 1866, her parents having both died, Miss Jack joined her brother in California, travelling by way of New York, from which city she set out on the steamer "Caledonia," bound for the Isthmus of Panama, and after crossing that strip of land took the steamer "Arizona" for San Francisco. She lived for a time with her brother at Monterey, when she bought a ranch at Josephine, in San Luis Obispo County, operating it for twenty years. She made a large stock ranch of her possessions, raising shorthorn Durham cattle. She had a dairy of forty-five cows, and churned three times a week, turning out more than a hundred pounds of butter at each churning. The milk was panned and skimmed by hand, Miss Jack doing all the work herself. Such was the quality of her butter that it was rated as the best in the San Francisco market; and such, too, was the care that she gave her cows that each knew her voice and would come to her. A mile away from her nearest neighbor, she never suffered from loneliness; for she cooked and did all the work required at the ranch house, even to washing and scalding the pans. She was in fact very busy, undertaking, in addition, to raise calves and hogs.

On account of rheumatism, Miss Jack nine years ago came to the Paso Robles Hot Springs, and there she has remained, for the most part, ever since. While working her ranch, some fourteen hundred acres at the head of Santa Rosa creek, she discovered a quicksilver mine on the property which she named the "Bonnie Doon"; and this mine of cinnabar ore she worked for many years, putting in a retort and manufacturing quicksilver. While she was visiting the mine one morning, the shaft of which had been left carelessly uncovered, she walked into it and fell a distance of three hundred feet to the bottom, and was so seriously injured that her frame was shattered and several

bones broken. She was rescued and brought to her residence; and very fortunately, by good surgical attention, she fully recovered.

Miss Jack once had a peculiar experience where a dog came to her assistance. She had made a trip to Cambria, and in the meantime a hard rain-storm had broken; and, returning home on horseback—having declined an urgent invitation to stay all night with some friends, thinking she must get back home—she found Santa Rosa creek had become a raging torrent. On reaching a certain crossing her mare, Fannie, refused to swim the flood, though urged in every possible way; and finally, when Miss Jack was despairing of getting across, a mysterious dog came out of the storm. When its intelligence grasped the situation, it looked up at Miss Jack, and then at the horse, and plunged into the stream; after which the mare, evidently inspired by the example, followed and carried her mistress safely over.

In the old days on the ranch, when she used to get up at four, and sometimes at three o'clock in the morning, she kept things lively at the mine; but finally she sold the ranch and leased out the bonanza. Now, in her years of leisure, she resides with her companion, Mrs. Mary Doling, taking a keen interest in her Park Street home and in the little social world about her, particularly in the works of charity undertaken by the Presbyterian Church; and not failing to follow the devious ways of politics, she shows the keenest interest in Republican affairs. Miss Jack is a very liberal and generous-hearted woman, and she seems never to become weary of well-doing in spite of often being imposed upon; she always has fed the hungry and weary travellers who come to her door, and still she is ever ready, so far as she is able, to assist those less fortunate than herself. She is well and favorably known, and everyone speaks of her in the highest terms of appreciation.

**REUBEN HART.**—One of the most prominent developers and the pioneer of Santa Maria. Reuben Hart was born in Derbyshire, England, in 1843. He received his education in England and learned the trade of carriage-maker in the Stubbs Manufacturing Company, at Derby, where he remained for several years. He then went to Swansea, Wales, and was employed in a large manufactory for a time, after which he came to America and was engaged, for about four years, in the Cummings Railway Contract shops in New Jersey. While there, he sent for his brother Thomas, who was a machinist; and together, in 1866, they came to California. Mr. Hart first found employment with D. S. Mills, at San Jose, as manager of his manufacturing plant for wagons and agricultural implements.

From San Jose, the two brothers went to Castroville when that town was started, and established the firm of Hart Bros., doing general blacksmithing and machine work until 1872. They then moved their stock and machinery to the new town of Guadalupe, in Santa Barbara county. They practically started the growth of the town by establishing a large blacksmith and machine shop, and also bought lots and built a block of business houses; and they also acted as agents for the Guadalupe ranch. In 1875, the brothers extended their business. Reuben Hart, going to Santa Maria, then the center of a growing farming community, bought property at the corner of Main and Broadway, and erected a large building for an extensive blacksmith and machine shop. He also put up a feed mill, run by steam power, and later built a store building and several residences, and carried on a large business with the ranchers by dealing in feed and barley.

In 1879, the firm of Hart Bros. dissolved; Reuben Hart retained the Santa Maria property, and his brother continued at Guadalupe. That same year Mr. Hart started a lumber yard, and the next year established the water works, piping the town and pumping the water by steam power from an eighty-five-foot well to an elevated tank. He added to his business interests in 1882 and 1883 by forming a partnership with M. P. Nicholson in farming four thousand acres to wheat and operating a steam threshing outfit. In 1884, he built a one-story brick store building 50x88 feet, and continued his shop until 1888, when he sold out the business and buildings, which were removed from their location. It was here that Mr. Hart constructed the building now known as Hotel Bradley, then called "Hart's House" and known far and wide as the leading hostelry of the Santa Maria valley, and which, for seven years, was presided over in person by its owner, until he finally sold out.

The water works system, begun in a small way in 1880, was enlarged from time to time. The mains were extended and the service improved by Mr. Hart, and it was conducted as a private enterprise. He met and overcame strong competition, but succeeded in the long run in giving very satisfactory service. In 1912 he sold out to the Lewis Sloss Company, bond brokers of San Francisco, for sixty thousand dollars. This company entered into speculative enterprises in the northern part of the state, met reverses and failed. It was then that the "Father of Santa Maria" again came to the fore and was one of the prime movers in getting the city of Santa Maria to purchase and operate its own water works. This was accomplished in January, 1916, thus giving the city control of its most important public utility.

For seven years, Mr. Hart served as a member of the board of education, and he has always taken an active interest in the maintenance of good schools. No movement has been advanced for the betterment of the community and the welfare of the citizens that has not had the co-operation and support of Reuben Hart. When it was proposed to build the broad-gauge railroad through the city, the company asked a bonus of eight thousand dollars. Mr. Hart came to the front; and to stimulate interest at the meeting held to discuss the matter and to raise the money, started the list with five hundred dollars, and aided very materially in raising the balance. This road runs through Santa Maria, extending from Guadalupe to Leonhart in the East Santa Maria oil fields. When it was proposed to build the state highway through the county, Mr. Hart spent of his time and money to secure the right of way, and he was one of the prime movers to call a general meeting. He also took a leading part in advocating the paving of the business streets and was instrumental in getting a vote passed to levy assessments for paving the highway in the city limits, and putting in curbs and gutters. It meant an expense to him of over twenty-five hundred dollars, which goes to show that his motives were not mercenary in any way.

After Mr. Hart had conducted the hotel for seven years, he decided that the care of such an establishment was too much for him to attend to with all his other interests; so he traded the hotel property for some on the opposite side of the street. This he still owns, as well as the post office block and some valuable residence properties other than his home on South Broadway. He owned the property at the southeast corner of the main business block in the town recently sold to the First National Bank for their new

home. Of this bank he is a stockholder and director. He served on the city board of trustees for many years, resigning in 1912. There has not been a church erected in this valley, no matter of what denomination, that has not received his contribution. It would be hard to point to any worthy movement that has been promoted in the valley for the betterment of conditions generally that has not had his heartiest support, both moral and financial. He has met with success solely through his own efforts, loves his fellow men and a square deal, and no one is more highly respected by all classes of people than Reuben Hart.

In 1879 Mr. Hart was united in marriage at Santa Maria with Mrs. Harriett Sharp, a native of Pennsylvania. She had two daughters by a former marriage, Mrs. E. T. Bryant and Mrs. W. A. Haslam. The only child of this union is Harriett, now the wife of George M. Scott, who, with her husband, resides at the Hart home on South Broadway. Mrs. Hart died in 1896. Mr. Hart is a member of long standing in the Knights of Pythias lodge of Santa Maria. In politics he is a consistent Democrat in national affairs, but in local matters supports men and measures best suited, according to his estimation, for the public good. In the evening of his days he can look back upon a life well spent, and look forward without fear; for he has lived up to the Golden Rule, and has done what he could for his fellow men.

**LEWIS D. AND CARRIE GIBBONS.**—The late Lewis D. Gibbons, who passed away in 1910 at his home in Morro, was one of the well-known citizens of the county, and in the section about Adelaida was identified with the agricultural development of the land. He was born in Ohio and attended the public schools there until he accompanied his parents to Bachelor Springs, Kan., when he was a lad of sixteen. Here he finished his public school course and was graduated from the University of Kansas, after which he taught school in Kansas for a time. On account of ill health he gave up teaching and, in 1884, came to California; and near Adelaida, in San Luis Obispo County, located on government land. He also homesteaded and improved the property, and finally retired to Morro, where he died.

The marriage of Lewis D. Gibbons united him with Carrie Ingraham, a native of Illinois who, at the age of eleven years, accompanied her parents to Kansas, where she completed her schooling. Coming to California she at once became identified with educational matters, and for thirty years was connected with the schools of San Luis Obispo and Kern counties. She served as principal of the grammar school in Taft for two years and held the same position in the school in Fellows for three years. In San Luis Obispo County she taught nine years in Cayucos and Morro, and for some time was connected with the schools in Paso Robles. She is recognized as one of the pioneer teachers of the county, and none of them are more favorably known than Mrs. Gibbons. She has always entered into school work with her whole heart, and many of the men and women who are active in the affairs in the county today owe to her their start in educational training.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gibbons two children were born; Oscar, a graduate of Stanford, and a prominent attorney in San Luis Obispo, who is married and the father of two children; and a married daughter, Mrs. Hortense Rhyne. Mrs. Rhyne was graduated from the State Normal and taught in San Luis Obispo six years and in Riverside, Cal., one year. She is the mother of two children.





home. Of this bank he is a stockholder and director. He served on the city board of trustees for many years, resigning in 1912. There has not been a church erected in this valley, no matter of what denomination, that has not received his contribution. It would be hard to point to any worthy movement that has been promoted in the valley for the betterment of conditions generally that has not had his heartiest support, both moral and financial. He has met with success solely through his own efforts, loves his fellow men and a square deal, and no one is more highly respected by all classes of people than Reuben Hart.

In 1879 Mr. Hart was united in marriage at Santa Maria with Mrs. Harriett Sharp, a native of Pennsylvania. She had two daughters by a former marriage, Mrs. E. T. Bryant and Mrs. W. A. Haslam. The only child of this union is Harriett, now the wife of George M. Scott, who, with her husband, resides at the Hart home on South Broadway. Mrs. Hart died in 1896. Mr. Hart is a member of long standing in the Knights of Pythias lodge of Santa Maria. In politics he is a consistent Democrat in national affairs, but in local matters supports men and measures best suited, according to his estimation, for the public good. In the evening of his days he can look back upon a life well spent, and look forward without fear; for he has lived up to the Golden Rule, and has done what he could for his fellow men.

**LEWIS D. AND CARRIE GIBBONS.**—The late Lewis D. Gibbons, who passed away in 1910 at his home in Morro, was one of the well-known citizens of the county, and in the section about Adelaida was identified with the agricultural development of the land. He was born in Ohio and attended the public schools there until he accompanied his parents to Bachelor Springs, Kan., when he was a lad of sixteen. Here he finished his public school course and was graduated from the University of Kansas, after which he taught school in Kansas for a time. On account of ill health he gave up teaching and, in 1884, came to California; and near Adelaida, in San Luis Obispo County, located on government land. He also homesteaded and improved the property, and finally retired to Morro, where he died.

The marriage of Lewis D. Gibbons united him with Carrie Ingraham, a native of Illinois who, at the age of eleven years, accompanied her parents to Kansas, where she completed her schooling. Coming to California she at once became identified with educational matters, and for thirty years was connected with the schools of San Luis Obispo and Kern counties. She served as principal of the grammar school in Taft for two years and held the same position in the school in Fellows for three years. In San Luis Obispo County she taught nine years in Cayucos and Morro, and for some time was connected with the schools in Paso Robles. She is recognized as one of the pioneer teachers of the county, and none of them are more favorably known than Mrs. Gibbons. She has always entered into school work with her whole heart, and many of the men and women who are active in the affairs in the county today owe to her their start in educational training.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gibbons two children were born: Oscar, a graduate of Stanford, and a prominent attorney in San Luis Obispo, who is married and the father of two children; and a married daughter, Mrs. Hortense Rhyne. Mrs. Rhyne was graduated from the State Normal and taught in San Luis Obispo six years and in Riverside, Cal., one year. She is the mother of two children.





*F. E. Darke*

It is everywhere recognized that the educator is the most potent factor in building up the moral code in any community, and to the men and women who devote their life work to this end, great credit should be given. Mr Gibbons spent some years as a teacher, and the daughter also won recognition in that field of endeavor; while Mrs. Gibbons, during her long term of active service in the schools of the county, has seen them develop from their infancy to their present rank with the best in the state. That she has done her part is evidenced by the esteem in which she is held in the various parts of the county where she spent so many useful years.

**FREDERICK E. DARKE.**—No man now living in San Luis Obispo County is more universally respected than the subject of this review. For over forty years he taught school in the county, and served efficiently as county superintendent of schools six years, and a like period as county recorder. Professor Darke is a Pennsylvanian, born at Carbondale, August 22, 1845, a son of John W. and Salina (Duncan) Darke, the former born in London, England, and the latter also a native of that country, but of Scotch descent. The education of Mr. Darke was obtained in the public schools of his county until, in his seventeenth year, he enlisted for service in the Civil War, becoming a member of Company G, 57th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, under Captain Peck, Colonel Charles Campbell in command, the regiment becoming a part of the Army of the Potomac. With his regiment Mr. Darke participated in the battles of Big Bethel, Yorktown, Williamsburg, Richmond, and Malvern Hill, this being the last of the seven days' battle about Richmond, as well as in many other minor engagements and skirmishes in the Army of the Potomac. He was taken prisoner at Chancellorsville, and returned to his regiment in December. After a service of a little over three years, he was honorably discharged, May 15, 1865. On April 3 of that year he veteraned by re-enlisting in the Ninth Hancock's Veteran Volunteer Regiment. He served till the close of the conflict, and was discharged, June 25, 1866, at the end of the war.

The great conflict over, Mr. Darke returned to complete his education, entering Norwich Academy at Norwich, N. Y., where he finished an elective course. In 1868 he decided to come to California; and embarking on a vessel for the Isthmus of Panama, he crossed that stretch of land, re-embarking on a ship for San Francisco. He came at once to San Luis Obispo County, secured a school and began teaching in the spring of 1869, in the San Simeon district. He taught later in Cambria, after the organization of the district, and continued teaching for fourteen years. In 1878 Mr. Darke was elected county superintendent of schools, serving from 1878 to 1879, while at the same time he was allowed to teach. He was becoming interested in politics; and as he was very popular wherever he was known, he was elected county recorder and served three consecutive terms of two years each.

He then taught school, for nineteen years, in the city of San Luis Obispo, soon becoming principal of the grammar schools. It was while in this position, and while teaching the Nipomo Street School, that Professor Darke drew up plans for additional room that was badly needed for the grammar grades. He laid out the grounds, marking spots where he wanted trees set out and flower beds planted, laid the plans before the proper persons and was assured that a tax would be voted for the improvements. The matter came before the people, the tax carried, and the good work began, the plans being

the letter as he had arranged. He himself set out nearly all the trees in the yard, and the lawn and flower beds were set out and planted under his supervision. It was declared by many that it would be impossible to keep the children from trespassing on the lawn and flower beds before they got fairly started; but Mr. Darke organized the boys into squads, had a captain elected monthly to see that order was maintained, and soon the boys became enthusiastic over the beauty of their school yard, and competed strongly for the honor of being captain. This plan for beautifying the bare school grounds was but the beginning of civic improvements in the county, many other schools falling into line.

In 1906 he was again elected county superintendent of schools, serving four years. In 1911 he resumed teaching at Cambria, continuing three years, and then taught one year at Nipomo. At the end of the year he had taught over forty years, and in 1914 decided to retire. Many of the men and women engaged in the busy affairs of life owe their early educational training to Professor Darke. Many a discouraged teacher has received from him words of cheer that gave heart once more to make the effort to overcome what seemed almost insurmountable difficulties.

Professor Darke is a charter member of, and helped to organize, Fred Steele Post, No. 70, G. A. R., of which he is Past Commander. At the time of organization, there were about eighty members; at this writing, in January, 1917, there are fifteen. Professor Darke has twice been honored by his fellow townsmen, outside of the confidence and trust reposed in him in official capacity. He was selected to provide protection for President McKinley and his party in May, 1901, when that distinguished gentleman stopped in San Luis Obispo on his tour of the Pacific coast; and an incident of the occasion worth recalling follows. As Mr. Darke was about to enter the President's private car to be introduced, Secretary Cortelyou, who was in charge of the President and his party, asked Mr. Darke his title, which question, for the instant, took even the usually composed pedagogue unawares. But he replied, "Mister is good enough for me"; and President McKinley, who at that moment was near the door, immediately greeted him with "How do you do, Mister Darke?" Needless to say, Professor Darke carefully protected the President from any kind of annoyance during his stay in the city. Again, in May, 1903, when President Roosevelt and party stopped in San Luis Obispo on his campaigning tour of the Coast, Mr. Darke was chosen to safeguard the popular statesman. He selected members of the Grand Army as guards, and detailed each for certain duty, again showing his careful attention to detail and having the satisfaction as before of knowing that, through his management, nothing marred the event.

In San Luis Obispo, on April 18, 1870, occurred the marriage of Professor Darke with Agnes Woods, a native of New York. She passed away on June 26, 1890, leaving eight children: Frederick E., Jr., who died aged twenty-seven years; Mrs. Clara G. Tilsley, of Tulare county; John W., of Nevada City, Cal.; Mrs. Emily Jane Gilbert, of Winters, Yolo county; Mrs. Sarah Mabel Smith, of Selma, Ind.; Mrs. Myra B. Conant, of the Hawaiian Islands; Roy E., mining engineer; and Miss Helen, teacher in the high school at McArthur, Shasta county, who married Virgil A. Vinyard. Four of the daughters and one son graduated from the University of California at Berkeley. In the family there are nine grandchildren to brighten the fireside of Mr. Darke.

By virtue of the law enacted by the state legislature that teachers be given an annuity after a certain number of years of service, Professor Darke is enjoying the results of his many years as an educator. He likewise receives a soldier's pension; and through these sources and his savings of many years, he is enabled to live retired, free from the cares and tribulations of the busy world of strife. He enjoys good health, keeps abreast of the times, and retains the good will and respect of neighbors and friends, among whom, by those who know him best, he is called "Father" Darke.

**GEORGE T. GRAGG.**—More than in any other state of the Union, California traces her vigorous prosperity to the sturdy character and perseverance of the hardy pioneers, many of whom risked their lives on the trackless, Indian-infested desert, the extremely dangerous trip across the Isthmus of Panama, where disease took its toll of human beings, or the journey, in any kind of a vessel, around Cape Horn, with danger besetting them on every hand during the entire voyage. Among these men of sterling worth is numbered George T. Gragg.

He was born in Milton, Mass., April 29, 1829, a son of Moses and Mary (Alden) Gragg, of English descent. The only education he received was in the common schools of his native place, and he was early set to learn the trade of carpenter. When twenty years of age, in the spring of 1849, George T. Gragg sailed from Boston, with a party of friends, on the ship "Sweden," to round the Horn.

On August 4 of that year they arrived in San Francisco. Here Mr. Gragg at once outfitted for the mines at Mokelumne Hill, where he mined for about two months, and then returned to San Francisco to spend the winter. The next spring he went back to the mines and followed the precarious occupation of miner for two years. During one of his exploring trips into the mountains, he camped on the spot where the Donner party split up. In 1852 he located in Santa Cruz and worked, for a time, at his trade of carpenter; later he engaged in the tannery business for two years, and then he opened a planing mill which, for several years, he conducted with some success. During this time, he became a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in the lodge at Santa Cruz, and he has passed all the chairs of the order.

In 1880 he came to San Luis Obispo County and bought a ranch of seven hundred acres, which he improved and farmed until 1890, when he moved into San Luis Obispo to give his children the advantages of the schools of the county-seat. He still owns the ranch, and it is devoted to dairying and grain-raising, and is being conducted by his son.

He served on the board of supervisors from 1886 to 1890, and during his term many needed improvements were pushed to completion in the county. Since moving to the city, he has lived retired, enjoying a well-earned rest. He married Ruth Root, a native of New England, and they became the parents of six children: Cauline, Mrs. Orton of Ventura; Hazzard, on the home ranch; and George R., Ruth, Frances and Alden, all of whom have received good practical training to fit them for the responsibilities of life. Among the people of San Luis Obispo, Mr. Gragg has a pleasant word for every one he meets; and well he may, for his life has been well spent, and the world has used him as he used the world.

**CHARLES BRADLEY.**—The changing vicissitudes of life brought Charles Bradley into intimate acquaintance with various localities before he established his permanent home in the Santa Maria valley in the fall of 1868. He was born at South Wingfield, Derbyshire, England, in 1839, and had but little opportunity to secure an education; for at the age of twelve he began work in the coal mines at Oakerthorpe, and when he was eighteen he commenced taking contracts in mining and breaking coal for market, continuing until 1868. Then, through the influence of his uncle, Paul Bradley, he came to this state, to Monterey county, where his uncle was living. With the latter, for a time, he stopped, and in the fall of that year came with him to the Santa Maria valley, driving all their stock, and he began working for this uncle, who had purchased considerable land here and was beginning in the sheep business. He continued in his employ four years, when he struck out for himself.

In 1872 Mr. Bradley purchased one hundred and sixty acres of land, adding to this from time to time, by pre-emption and purchase, until he became owner of about three thousand acres, one thousand of which was tillable and the balance suitable for pasturage. From this time on he devoted his energies to the sheep and cattle business with success. In the early period there was ample range-land, and stock roamed at will and was only gathered in at the annual rodeos; but as settlers came in and the large ranges were divided into smaller tracts, the stock business became unprofitable and Mr. Bradley, like the other stockmen, turned his attention to other lines of activity.

The Bradley ranch was well improved, and in 1873 he erected a fine country home and suitable buildings to accommodate his farming operations. In 1880, as an experiment, he set out an orchard of various kinds of fruit; but the business was never profitable in the valley and he went no further with the venture. His home property was not the extent of his interests, for he became interested in the town of Santa Maria by the purchase of the Hart Hotel, which he remodeled and renamed the Bradley Hotel. This is favorably known by commercial men throughout the length and breadth of the state as one of the up-to-date hosteleries frequented in their travels, and is now one of the valuable assets of the estate.

In South Wingfield, England, on April 5, 1857, Mr. Bradley was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Booth, a lady of culture, by whom he had eleven children—two sons and nine daughters. At their beautiful country home, erected in 1873, many happy reunions were held before Mrs. Bradley's death, and there Mr. Bradley passed away. He was a member of Hesperian Lodge, No. 264, F. & A. M., of Santa Maria; was interested in the cause of education; and for many years served on the school board and did much to elevate the standard of the schools of the valley. He was a stockholder and a director in the Santa Maria Bank, and in 1904 was elected president of the

er held in Santa Maria, and his death was mourned by rich and poor alike. He was a kindly and charitable man, always ready to aid those deemed worthy of assistance by him, and he was a potent factor in the development of the entire valley, and a man well and favorably known wherever he had







*J. F. Newson*

**DAVID F. NEWSOM.**—From the year 1853 until his death in 1902, an unbroken period of almost fifty years, David F. Newsom was an important factor in the history of San Luis Obispo County; and he left behind him the legacy of an untarnished name, more valuable and cherished more highly by his family than the riches he had accumulated during his busy life.

Born in Petersburg, Va., September 5, 1832, a son of David and Mira (Robinson) Newsom, he was educated in public and private schools and took a two years' course at the Petersburg Classical Institute, a Presbyterian school at Forestville, N. C. In his fifteenth year, on account of the business failure of his father, he had to leave school and go to work to support himself. He studied the situation carefully and decided to learn a trade. Accordingly he went to New York City, where he apprenticed himself to Dietz Brothers & Company, to learn brass finishing. One of the Dietz brothers was the husband of his mother's sister, and he secured him the chance to learn the business. On March 15, 1849, young Newsom boarded the schooner "Ann," owned by Captain Bogart, who offered him free passage to New York; and arriving there after a voyage of eight days, he entered at once upon his duties at the brass works.

Mr. and Mrs. Dietz were the editors of Holden's Magazine, and were the recipients of many complimentary tickets to operas, lectures and concerts; and these were frequently given to their nephew, who was glad to take advantage of every opportunity to educate himself. He also availed himself of his apprentice's right to draw books from the Mechanics' Library, as well as to attend lectures frequently given there; and here he heard many noted men and women. He also gained much valuable information at Barnum's American Museum. From a Mrs. Taylor, another friend, Mr. Newsom received invitations to attend Henry Ward Beecher's church, and heard that eminent divine from the Taylor pew. Lectures and entertainments, however, were not his only form of instruction and medium of education. Believing that bookkeeping would be of great assistance to him, he arranged to attend the Public Night School No. 5, on Duane street, where he also took lessons in vocal and instrumental music.

Apprentices were paid \$30.00 the first year, and \$40.00 the second; and when young Newsom's two years were up he had due him just \$20.00. On March 29, 1851, David F. Newsom left New York a good mechanic, a fine bookkeeper, and with an unusually large fund of general information. Returning to Petersburg, he accepted a position as clerk in a shoe store, the firm being the one that had bought his father's business. He remained with them two years, deciding then to come to California.

On September 15, Mr. Newsom started for New York, where he secured passage to San Francisco via the Nicaragua route on the steamer "Star of the West," which left the harbor September 25, and landed the passengers ten days later in San Francisco. There Mr. Newsom met Oscar M. Brown, who owned two ranches in San Luis Obispo County and was also county judge. He told Mr. Newsom there was a vacancy in the county clerk's office, and that he would appoint him to fill it if the salary of \$2000 a year was sufficient inducement. He accepted the position, but the salary not being sufficient, he opened a feed stable (which business became very remunerative), meanwhile continuing his position in the county office, and finding his task a difficult one, as the books were in a chaotic condition. As ex-officio county superintendent of schools, Mr. Newsom employed a teacher and opened the

Mr. Newsom lived in a room in the old mission. Mr. Newsom moved to the office of county clerk and held the office until 1857, when he went to Washington to try his fortunes.

In the early fifties, Mr. Newsom, with a partner, ran a hog ranch, part of the old La Bodega grant, leasing the land from the Villa family. He later went on to the mining section in the vicinity of Washo, Nev., and it took from six to eight weeks to make the trip. He also ran a vegetable and truck garden, and when he would go to San Luis to his office in the courthouse, he would haul all he could carry to the markets there.

Rev. Fr. Gomez gave Mr. Newsom, to whom he had taken a great liking, one half of the Van Gorden ranch and stock, selling the other half to a Mr. Lemos. Father Gomez had to leave for San Blas, Mexico, before the papers were made out for the transfer. Mr. Newsom made out the papers, he being county clerk at the time, and they were given to Lemos to have W. J. Graves turn over to Newsom his portion. In the meantime Lemos had sold the stock and pocketed the money, and said about the transfer of the land, "Do you think I am a fool to turn over the land?" He held the deeds. When Father Gomez came back to California to collect his \$4,000 from Lemos he refused to pay, and holding the deeds, could not be made to do so. Thus he and Mr. Newsom got nothing. Father Gomez then came to Mr. Newsom and told him of the wonderful opportunities in mahogany timber in Mexico, and that he would see that Mr. Newsom profited well if he would go down there; but he told the priest that he had had enough of Mexico as it was, and could not agree to leave California.

He opened the first general store at Olympia, sold out, and in April, 1858, started the first general store in Bellingham, both successful ventures. He disposed of the latter store, and in December moved to Fort Hope, B. C., opened a store on Fraser river, and remained there six months. Selling out at the end of that time, he started towards California once more. Arriving at San Juan Island, Mr. Newsom found General Pickett with a detachment of United States soldiers trying to prevent his arrest by the British; when Mr. Newsom organized a company of sharpshooters to assist him, a compromise was agreed upon, and Mr. Newsom was chosen to represent the different factions. He remained on the island until 1861, having charge of the sutler's store and assisting in the establishment of the San Juan lime works.

After his return to San Luis Obispo county, Mr. Newsom again became prominent in local affairs. He was an ardent Democrat for years, although later more independent in his views, and filled various offices, including justice of the peace and deputy county clerk. In 1864 he went to Arroyo Grande and taught the first school there. In the fall of 1864, he moved onto the Santa Manuela ranch, where he had purchased twelve hundred acres of land containing the Arroyo Grande Warm Springs. Here he improved a valuable ranch property, set out orchards of various kinds of fruits, raised Angora goats in large numbers, and other stock. He was interested in the Newsom Tannery, and became better known, perhaps, in the development of Newsom Springs. To demonstrate the curative powers of the water, Mr. Newsom took patients from the county hospitals to his resort and gave them free treatment for the ailments they were heir to, curing them, and thus giving

erected suitable buildings for the baths and cottages for tourists, and to those who came and wished to camp, he furnished free camping grounds. He had fourteen cottages, modern in appointments for the locality, and a good bath house with tubs and attendants. He would not allow any kind of liquor sold on the grounds at any time; and by his personal attention to the details of his resort, he built up a large patronage and derived a good revenue therefrom.

In 1863 Mr. Newsom and Anita Branch were united in marriage. Mrs. Newsom was a daughter of F. Z. Branch, of whom an extended mention is made in this history. For forty years this worthy couple prospered, meanwhile rearing a family of twelve children: David Z.; Edward F., who married Evelyn Cochran and, dying, left one son; Mary M.; Eliza, wife of J. E. Wier of Bakersfield and the mother of one son; Anna; Alexander D.; Louisa, the wife of John Janette of Los Angeles; Michael A., who married Mrs. Margie (Lingo) Craghill; Ruth L.; Belle Lee; William H.; and Robert P. David and Alexander are carrying on the ranch and Newsom Springs resort with success. The waters of these springs have great curative powers, and the place is equipped with a large plunge as well as with private baths. There is a dairy of twenty-five cows on the ranch.

David F. Newsom was made a Mason on his twenty-first birthday, September 5, 1853, when he received the first and second degrees; and on September 10 he received the third degree, it being conferred upon him by the Lieutenant Governor, who was Grand Master of the State of Virginia. With the exception of George Washington, Mr. Newsom was younger at the time of initiation than any other Master Mason that had then been received into the order in Virginia. He was also a member of the Knights of Pythias. He died January 1, 1902. His wife passed away March 30, 1912.

#### ANALYSIS OF THE WATERS OF NEWSOM SPRINGS

(Temperature, 100.50 deg. F.)

Sodium Chloride .....	4.10
Sodium Carbonate .....	1.75
Sodium Sulphate .....	3.92
Silica .....	2.03
Potassium Carbonate .....	.15
Potassium Sulphate .....	2.90
Magnesium Carbonate .....	6.41
Magnesium Sulphate .....	2.47
Organic matter .....	.27
Calcium Carbonate .....	3.25
Calcium Sulphate .....	.75
Ferrous Carbonate .....	3.99
Alumina .....	.33
Total .....	32.32

**BERNARD EXLINE.**—A pioneer of this state, Bernard Exline came across the plains with ox teams from Indiana to California and went to Eldorado county, where for some years he was engaged in mining. In 1868 he settled in San Luis Obispo County, locating on a ranch on the Salinas river, three miles north of what is now the city of Paso Robles, a town not dreamed of at that time. He had tired of the uncertainties of mining and decided to take up farming; so he located a homestead of one hundred sixty acres, and his place was the first homestead proved up in this section.

He succeeded in ranching and later moved in to San Luis Obispo when it was taking on new life, and engaged in contracting and building in the

He owned more land adjoining his homestead, and owned all under cultivation to grain and stock.

Mr. Exline was one of the early pioneer American settlers in the county and experienced many hardships. He owned eighty acres in Iowa that he never disposed of; and having leased his California ranch, he went back to Iowa, laid out his land as an addition to Newton, with building restrictions fixed at three thousand dollars, and rapidly sold off the property.

He also owned four hundred eighty acres at Rich Hill, Mo.; and three years after leaving California, he moved to this farm and built a home and operated the place until his death, of cholera morbus, four years later. His wife was Elizabeth Huey, a native of Indiana. She died in San Luis Obispo. They had four children.

After the death of his first wife, Bernard Exline married a second time. His bride was Belle Johnson, who died at Newton, Iowa, leaving no issue.

**DAVID FINLEY STOCKDALE.**—No object lesson could be presented by the student of history more striking than the transformation wrought in California during the past half century. David F. Stockdale well remembers the appearance of the country fifty-eight years ago when, after a tedious trip across the plains, he arrived in what is now the greatest commonwealth in America. As proprietor of the Park View Ranch, Mr. Stockdale has been a participant in the upbuilding of San Luis Obispo County since 1868. His father, Seneca Stockdale, was born in Bucks county, Pennsylvania, and his grandfather, John Stockdale, brought the family to Ohio and settled on Jones creek near Zanesville, where he cleared and improved a farm and where he died. They were members of the Society of Friends. The mother of Mr. Stockdale was Elizabeth Barker, born in Delaware, and she became the mother of eight children, two of whom are living.

David F. Stockdale was born in Zanesville, Muskingum county, O., October 15, 1835, attended the subscription schools of that period, and was reared on the farm of his father until he was eighteen. In 1853, he went to Shelby, Ill., and hired out for ten dollars per month as a farm hand, remaining one season. With the money he managed to save, he went to Winneshiek county, Ia., located a tract of land, and remained there engaging in farming two years. He next went to Minnesota, and in Freeborn county bought out a settler; and when his father went to that state in 1857, he located him on the land, and the following year started for California. In 1856, Indians killed all the settlers at Spirit Lake, Ia., eighty miles from Mr. Stockdale's home; and he helped bury the dead. It was bitter cold, forty below zero, and he froze his fingers, which still show the marks. In 1857 the same band of Indians came to Minnesota, but the settlers went after them and gave battle at Mud Lake. Mr. Stockdale was wounded in the left arm during the fight, in which David gave a good account of himself, for he was an expert with the rifle. During the battle the soldiers appeared and stopped the fight, and took the Indians to the reservation and fed them, and looked after them to keep them from further depredations.

In 1858, Mr. Stockdale started for California, joining a large train of immigrants, all having ox and horse teams. The party journeyed by easy stages to this state, where the settlers arrived in the fall after an uneventful trip, there being sufficient numbers to insure against Indians. Stopping in Eldorado county, he began mining, meeting with the usual luck attending





*D. H. Stackdale*



*Mrs. Rebecca Stockdale*





that precarious occupation. In 1865, for instance, he found a bar on the Cojumes river where the water broke; and after getting out the water, he put in sluice boxes and mined one hundred dollars in half an hour; following which, he worked over two acres, but did not make two dollars and a half a day.

In 1868 he located in San Luis Obispo County, then a wild country just being surveyed. Mr. Stockdale located a pre-emption on one hundred sixty acres, built a cabin and began improving the land. Lumber was five cents a foot, and it was all hauled from Port Harford. Mr. Stockdale began raising cattle, his brand being DS with a half circle above. He later homesteaded eighty acres, thus adding to his original holdings.

Mr. Stockdale was married here to Mrs. Rebecca (Exline) Middleton, a native of Indiana and a sister of Levi Exline. She had come here with her brother, Bernard Exline, in the fall of 1868. Before her marriage, Mrs. Stockdale had homesteaded one hundred sixty acres on what is now the state highway, three miles north of Paso Robles, proving up on the property, which added to his holdings and made them four hundred acres in one body, where he continued stock- and grain-raising. He was one of the first to set out an orchard, having prunes, pears and various kinds of fruit, all producing large crops; but there was no market for the fruit on account of lack of shipping facilities, and he grubbed out the trees and went back to grain, which is his staple crop. On this place he has made all the improvements with the aid of his late wife, who did her share in enduring the hardships and rearing the family.

Three children were born to them. Charles F. is in Lemoore; William L. resides in the Adelaida district; and Claude is carrying on the home place. By the first marriage of Mrs. Stockdale there was a daughter, now Mrs. Catherine Linn, living on an adjoining ranch. Mr. Stockdale was one of the organizers of the Farmers' Alliance Business Association that erected the farmers' warehouse at Paso Robles, and which did so much to advance the grain-growers' interests and establish a higher price, as it encouraged competition; and Mr. Stockdale was a member of the first board of directors.

**DWIGHT REYNOLDS.**—More than any other state in the Union, California traces her vigorous prosperity directly to the sturdy characters and untiring perseverance of the pioneers, many of whom risked their lives on the trackless, Indian-infested plains, bringing hither eastern conservatism and practical experience to the aid of western chaos and impetuosity. Enrolled among these men is the name of Dwight Reynolds. He was born in New Auburn, Cayuga county, N. Y., March 8, 1837, a son of Robert and Annie (Draper) Reynolds, both of whom were born, lived and died there. They had eight sons and one daughter, only two of whom are living at this time. There were four of the Reynolds brothers in the Civil War, and two of them were killed in battle.

Dwight Reynolds was educated in the common schools of his native county and reared to manhood on his father's farm; and he there early learned the rudiments of farming and lessons of thrift. When he was but ten years old his father died, and he remained at home for a few years, after which, until he came to California, he went out to work for wages, for the farmers in that part of the county. He left New York City, May, 1860, on the "North Star," bound for Aspinwall, and crossed the Isthmus to Panama.

of the "Golden State" to San Francisco, and then to the Santa Clara valley. He went to the Santa Clara valley and found work at threshing on the farms of that section, and also at running sheep, in the San Joaquin and Santa Clara valleys.

In 1874, Mr. Reynolds came to San Luis Obispo County and engaged in raising sheep for himself. He was later superintendent of the Eureka ranch two years and for a few years of the Santa Ysabel ranch. He purchased two ranches of one hundred sixty acres each on the Huer-Huero river about three miles from Paso Robles, and began improving them with good buildings and getting the land under cultivation; and from time to time he added to them until he owns about four hundred acres in one body. Here he engaged in the sheep business for a number of years and met with success. He also did general farming. He also owns one hundred sixty acres adjoining Paso Robles, where the golf links are located, a place that promises to become one of the finest residential sections of the city.

Mr. Reynolds was united in marriage at San Luis Obispo in 1875, with Miss Mary Johnson, who was born in Guelph, Ontario, Can., where she was reared and attended the public schools. She came to this state in the seventies and from San Francisco came to San Luis Obispo. They have had five children: Isabel, Mrs. Walter Rhyne of this vicinity; Ross and Charles, who are farming on the Huntington ranch; William, of Alberta, Canada; and Vine, Mrs. Coates, who resides in San Francisco.

Mr. Reynolds has served as trustee of schools for many years, was a member of the first board of the Dry creek district and helped build the schoolhouse. He is a Republican in politics, although he has never sought public office. With his wife he is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Both Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds have a host of warm friends throughout the county, where he is recognized as one of the oldest living settlers. He has accumulated a competence, and is now living in the quiet enjoyment of his home and its surroundings.

**CASSIUS H. GLINES.**—There is probably no better-known citizen in Santa Barbara county, in particular, and the Santa Maria valley, where he is a pioneer, than Cassius H. Glines, now living retired in his comfortable home at 603 South Broadway, Santa Maria. He was born in Salt Lake City, Utah, November 5, 1850, while his parents were coming across the plains to California from Missouri. His father, John H. Glines, was born in the vicinity of Churchillville, near Quebec, Canada, February 16, 1831, and was married in Missouri to Miss Mary Ann Evans, who was born September 2, 1832, in Richmond, Ohio. He started overland for California with his wife, and when they got to Salt Lake City they stopped for a time; and while there their eldest child, Cassius, was born. He came to California, and was engaged in trading from San Bernardino to Salt Lake City, and was also in the stock business. He left his family in the latter city until they finally joined him in California, where he was running a ranch near San Bernardino. While ranching he met his wife, and they came to California together.

Mr. Glines lived about in this state considerably in pursuit of a fortune, but never had the intention to make it his permanent home. In 1862 they came to Santa Maria, where he was freighting to the Santa Maria valley. He remained here for a year; but 1877

being a dry year and the prospects uninviting, the family went down to what is now Orange county, then a part of Los Angeles county. There they made their home, and there he and his wife died—she in 1884 and he in 1897.

They were the parents of twelve children. Five sons and five daughters grew to maturity: Cassius H.; Mrs. Mary A. Johnson, of Covina; David, who died in Santa Ana; Perry L., living in Santa Ana; Joseph, of this state; Dow, in Arizona; Mrs. Ella Boyd, in California; Mrs. Olive King, deceased; Anner, of this state; and Mrs. Etta Veigley, deceased. The experiences of this worthy couple in pioneering in the great, unlimited West were full of hardships and privations, but rich in historical associations.

Cassius H. Glines attended school in California in the various places where the family lived. He was but twenty years younger than his father, and was always associated with him in business affairs until the family moved to Santa Ana, when he remained in the Santa Maria valley. He looked upon his parent more as a companion than a father, and was always so treated by him. He grew up in the stock business, assisting on the farm, and doing a man's work from early manhood, and helped to settle up a new country and to make it a pleasant place in which to live. He distinctly remembers that his father was offered thirteen acres of land, now within the borders of the city of Sacramento, in exchange for a mule—which offer was refused, as he was freighting between that city and Virginia City, Nev., and a mule was valuable, for they were hard to get and he had to make his living with them. He also relates that his uncle, Israel Evans, at one time worked for Tom Marshall, the discoverer of gold in 1848, at Sutter's mill. He recalls the first public school, which he attended a short time, later finishing in the intermediate school at Sacramento.

For a while Cassius lived on Sutter's creek in Amador county, mining for gold and quartz. When his parents came to the Santa Maria valley, the outlook was discouraging; but father and son set to work, and by dint of hard labor developed a valuable property, doing a very successful business in general farming. After his father went to Santa Ana, the son remained on the ranch and has always been a valued resident of the Santa Maria valley.

He has improved several ranches in the intervening years, and now owns one hundred twenty good acres near Orcutt, and also a thirteen-hundred-acre stock ranch; and is half owner, with his eldest son, in two hundred head of cattle. Besides this, he owns his comfortable home in Santa Maria, which he purchased in 1908. At one time he had a government claim of one hundred sixty acres right where oil is being produced, and could have proved up on it by paying \$2.50 per acre to the government; but it was unsuited for agricultural purposes and he let it go.

When he first came to the valley in 1875, what is now Santa Maria was known as Central City and comprised four blocks at Main and Broadway. There were only a few trees in the valley in the early days. A pepper tree planted in his yard is now forty-five years old and three feet in diameter. He set out one of the first family orchards in the valley in the winter of 1883, and a vineyard of some two hundred vines; all grew and thrived, and about five years later he took a premium at a fair in Santa Barbara for his apples. Mr. Glines served as trustee in the Pine Grove district for twenty years, part of the time being clerk of the board; he also assisted in organizing the Washington district, and was clerk and trustee while he lived there. He was one

of the organizers, and is a Past Grand, of Santa Maria Lodge No. 302, I. O. O. F. Politically he is a Democrat.

In 1872, at Summit Flat, Shasta county, Mr. Glines was united in marriage with Miss Sarah B. Martin, a daughter of Thomas J. and Sarah Jane (Goatley) Martin. She was born in Missouri and died in Santa Maria, Feb. 22, 1913. Of this union several children were born. Charles H. is a partner with his father in the stock on Glines' ranch on the Alamo; he married Annie Purvis and they have one child. John T. married Dora Holloway, whose parents were early settlers and were the first couple married here. He is a stockman and the father of five children. Robert, in business in Orcutt, married Cora McCroskey and has four children. Belle is the wife of William McDonald of Santa Maria. Huldah, the wife of M. M. Purkiss, field manager for the Union Sugar Co. at Betteravia, is the mother of two children. Eva is at home. James L. married Ethel Dempster and has one son. He is cashier of the First National Bank of Santa Maria, and is city treasurer of Santa Maria. Phoebe lives at home. Mr. Glines is highly respected by all with whom he is acquainted, and has always made his influence felt for the good of the community.

**JOHN P. BLACK.**—A worthy son of his father, John P. Black has taken an active part in the development of the agricultural interests of San Luis Obispo County, where the greater part of his life has been spent. He was born in British Columbia, March 17, 1862, a son of Patrick J. and Maria (Morris) Black. His early schooling was obtained in the schools in San Francisco, where he also studied to become a civil engineer and surveyor, a profession that he has followed for many years, throughout San Luis Obispo and adjoining counties.

Mr. Black assisted his father in the sheep business and proved up on a government claim near Huasna; and to this small beginning he has added, from time to time, until he now owns twelve hundred acres of good land on the Huasna plain which is devoted to the stock business. Besides the above ranch, he is also the owner of considerable land in other sections. Since 1888 he has done surveying in almost every part of this county, and has become a very well-known man.

Mr. Black held an appointment as United States Deputy Surveyor for a number of years, during which time every survey made was accepted. Like his father, he always enjoys a hunt; and twenty-five years after his father had hunted in the Tulares, he and a friend hunted antelope on the Cuyama, running onto about three hundred head, of which they shot seven. He also shot hundreds of deer and California lions.

Mr. Black was united in marriage with Mary Mahurin, who was born in California; and they have six children: William J., who owns a government claim in this county; Walter L., owner of a claim in Santa Barbara county; and Herbert E., Lillian A., Laura M., and John R. Black. Since Mr. Black attained his majority, he has been self-supporting, and since becoming a resident of San Luis Obispo County he has been identified with every movement for the advancement of the welfare of the citizens and the improvement of the county. He is a friend of education and has done much to improve the standard of the schools. He is a member of the B. P. O. Elks and of the Catholic Church.





W. J. Lucas

**WILLIAM T. LUCAS, M. D.**—Among professional men in the Santa Maria valley, none is more in touch with the general spirit of progress in the West than Dr. William T. Lucas, senior member of the firm of Lucas & Coblentz and widely known as a proficient expounder of the best principles of medical science. A native of Missouri, he was born near St. Joseph, Buchanan county, March 18, 1850, a son of George J. and Sally (Thomas) Lucas. George J. Lucas was a farmer in Missouri, who emigrated with his family to Montana in 1864, crossing the plains by prairie schooner, his son, William T., riding a mule and assisting in driving the thousand or more head of cattle brought by the company, of which the Lucas family were members. Besides the stock, the company had several loads of freight. The Lucas family stopped in Deer Lodge valley, Mr. Lucas taking up land and engaging in dairying, making cheese and butter until 1868, when he sold out and again started westward with California as his goal. On arrival he settled in Yolo county near Woodland, where for several years he followed farming and stock-raising. Finally retiring to Woodland, he lived there until his death, at the age of seventy-seven years. His widow, now in her eighty-ninth year and in the full possession of all her mental faculties, still resides in that city.

W. T. Lucas received his education by private tutor in Montana, and from the time he was old enough had to work hard to assist in the support of the family. Later he attended Hesperian College at Woodland, and also taught school, off and on, for six years in Yolo and Solano counties. His ambition after he had reached manhood's estate was to become a physician; and accordingly, after he had saved enough money to defray his expenses, he entered the University of the Pacific in San Francisco, Dr. Lane being professor of surgery and Dr. Plummer instructor on diseases of women and children. During three years of that time, Dr. Lucas was clerk of the Children's Clinic, and it was while he was instructor here that George Pardee, later governor of California, was a student. In November, 1876, Dr. Lucas was graduated, and the following February he opened an office in Woodland, where he practiced medicine, became county physician and had charge of the Woodland hospital until 1879, when he came to Guadalupe, Santa Barbara county. There he practiced until June, 1884; and then he located permanently in Santa Maria, where he is the pioneer physician. In 1882 he obtained an honorary degree from Cooper Medical College, now the medical department of Stanford University. Locating in Santa Maria, he bought property in town and one hundred sixty acres of farming land. He leases out eighty acres of the latter, and is improving the balance with orchards, including deciduous fruits. He already has about twenty-two acres set out. Dr. Lucas, who is one of the owners and proprietors of the Lucas Sanitarium on South Broadway and was the first surgeon in charge, has an extensive and successful practice throughout the Santa Maria valley. He is a great reader, and has a large private library.

Dr. Lucas was married in Sacramento to Miss Lulu Maupin, a lady of French descent, although born in Missouri. Her father, a Southerner, was one of the "Midnight Raiders," and was assassinated during the Civil War. Her mother is also deceased. Mrs. Lucas came to California with an uncle, James M. Stephenson, who lived in Franklin, Sacramento county. To Dr. and Mrs. Lucas two children have been born: Lee F., regimental quartermaster in the 5th Regiment, N. G. C., is married and lives in Berkeley; while



Ora is the wife of G. B. Blankenburg, a prominent attorney with offices in San Francisco.

To Dr. Lucas, more than to any other citizen, is due the credit of organizing the Santa Maria High School, having the building erected in Santa Maria, and making it one of the best schools in the state. He was the first president of the Agricultural Association of the Santa Maria Valley, and is fond of horses and a patron of the race-track, not for gambling purposes but for the pure love of the sport and of fine horses. He is a York rite Mason, a member of the Blue Lodge of Guadalupe, of which he was Master several years. He was elected Grand Master by the Grand Lodge of Masons of the state in 1896. He is a member and Past High Priest of Fidelity Chapter, R. A. M., of Santa Maria, and a member of San Luis Obispo Commandery, No. 27, K. T. For eight years, Dr. Lucas was one of the most active workers on the grievance committee of the Grand Lodge of Masons, of which he was a member for about twelve years. He has the most complete Masonic library in Southern California. He has been a member of the Knights of Pythias lodge since May, 1877, and is a member of the San Luis Obispo lodge of Elks. In line with his profession, he belongs to the County Medical Society, and the State Medical Society, having served as its vice-president in 1904-05, and is a member of the American Medical Association.

The Doctor is a consistent Democrat, and has taken an active part in campaigns ever since he was old enough to vote, and even before that time. In 1884 he was defeated for the state legislature; in 1904 he was defeated for Congress; and in 1916 he refused to become a candidate for the last-named post. He is a member of the State Democratic Central Committee, and for years has been a member of the Democratic County Central Committee.

Dr. Lucas is noted as an orator, and delivered the address at the laying of the corner-stone of the Santa Maria Carnegie Library, as well as the speech of the day at the laying of the corner-stone of the Masonic building in Santa Maria. Of his addresses may be mentioned the "Historical and Philosophical" lecture on Masonry, delivered before various Masonic meetings throughout the state; "History of Masonry"; and "In Memoriam"—all eloquent discourses. He is an enthusiastic booster for California and his section of the state, a progressive citizen, a noted surgeon and a prominent Mason. He is hale and hearty, comes from a long-lived family, is companionable and popular and very highly respected.

**ARCHER CATRON JESSEE.**—There are but few persons whose records are obtainable at this time who represent those men who were members of that brave band of pioneer plainsmen, soldiers and farmers who took part in the early movements that won California for the Union and thereafter were active participants in the later-day movements that placed this glorious state in the front rank of all the commonwealths of our country. Such a man was the late Archer Catron Jessee, progenitor of the family in California. He was a native of Virginia, born December 25, 1821, in Russell county, moved to Missouri with his parents, and remained with them until 1842, when he married, in Atchison county, Va., Miss Mary Harbin, a native of Tennessee and a daughter of James M. Harbin, the discoverer of the famous Harbin Springs in Lake county, California. She was likewise a sister of Matt Harbin, pioneer of this state, who migrated to the West in 1842, and became California's first millionaire.

A. C. Jessee was an own cousin of Gen. Robert E. Lee, of ancestry traceable back to English royalty. In England the Jessee family were military men, and a Major Jessee became known in the history of Virginia and married a sister of Lord Tennyson. The expression frequently used by General Lee in the heat of an engagement, "Give them Jessee, boys," alludes to the prowess of that family.

After the marriage of A. C. Jessee, he farmed in Missouri until 1846, when with his wife he joined a party coming to California. Outfitting with supplies, oxen, mules and horses, the party set out under the leadership of Lilburn H. Boggs, later governor of California; and after an eventful journey of five months, arrived in California. Mr. Boggs had incurred the hatred of the Mormons on account of the part he took in expelling them from Missouri; and when they heard he was guiding a party westward, they sent him word not to stop at Salt Lake or trouble would follow. He armed his company, secured two brass cannons which he had had cast in New Orleans, and with his band of fifty fearless men, among whom was Archer Catron Jessee, took up the long journey to the new Eldorado. The party had many skirmishes with Indians en route, and when they neared Salt Lake, took a circuitous route to avert trouble, and arrived safely at their destination.

During all this time Mr. Jessee was one of the most trusted and courageous men in the company, and later figured prominently in the history of the state. He settled on the present site of Sacramento, soon after enlisted under John C. Fremont, and was made First Lieutenant under Captain John Grigsby, in Company E, 1st California Battalion. He took part in the battle on the Salinas plains, where Captain Byrns Foster and others were killed, and in the skirmish at San Fernando. He was a member of the Bear Flag party, served through the Mexican War, and was discharged in 1847; after which he returned to Sacramento county, and later went to Napa county, where he resided fourteen years and engaged in farming, stock-raising and dealing in land and livestock. He was the first sheriff of Napa county, served two terms and in 1864 moved with his family to Lake county. There he continued his chosen vocation until 1869, when he came south to San Luis Obispo County and took charge of the Murphy ranch. In 1873 Mr. Jessee went to San Bernardino county and undertook the management of a large dairy ranch; and while there he was induced to invest in a gold-mining proposition. He had been successful as a farmer and stockman and had accumulated land in various parts of the state where he had lived; these he sold, to invest in the mining enterprise at Florence, Arizona, in 1876. The following year he was taken ill and died on August 19, 1877. After much litigation over the mining property, all was lost and the family was left almost destitute; but with the frontier spirit of determination, the widow, with her children, came back to Santa Barbara county and settled in the Santa Maria valley in 1878.

To Mr. and Mrs. Archer Catron Jessee the following children were born: Anna, who married F. M. Grady of Sebastopol and had one son, Jefferson, both she and her son being now deceased; James Lee, a rancher in Yolo county; Parlee, the wife of J. R. Wilkinson of Riverside county; John V., a civil engineer and surveyor in San Benito county; Archer Catron, who died at the age of five years; Willard, a rancher near Arroyo Grande; Aurelia, who married C. B. Dutcher and lives at Sisquoc; and Madison, Perry D., Francis Marion, Henry Haight, and Virginia, all residents of Santa Maria.

**JOHN F. BECKETT.**—Few names are more inseparably associated with the history of San Luis Obispo County during nearly a half century than that of John F. Beckett of Arroyo Grande, who, as a teacher, public official, farmer, business man and promoter of important enterprises for the betterment of general conditions, has proven the value of his citizenship and the integrity of his character. He was born in Polk county, Iowa, February 19, 1847, and when five years old, in 1852, was brought across the plains by his parents, who located in Oregon, remained there seven years, and in 1859 came to California. It was in March, 1869, that Mr. Beckett arrived in San Luis Obispo. He began teaching in the public schools soon after, and about two years later established the first commercial nursery in the county. Later he moved it to Arroyo Grande, with which city he has ever since been closely identified. For fourteen years he taught school in various parts of the county; for seven years he taught in Arroyo Grande; and one term the gifted writer, Charles Edwin Markham, who was a personal friend of his, taught in an outlying portion of the same district. In May, 1879, a new state constitution was adopted in San Luis Obispo County by over four hundred majority. This changed the school law in such form as to create a county instead of a state system. In the political campaign following its adoption, the four political parties favoring it went into convention and nominated a county ticket, saying that, as they had won the constitution, so they would control the politics of the county. The other two parties, Democrat and Republican, later did an unheard-of thing for them: they convened the same day and nominated a joint ticket, Mr. Beckett being the candidate chosen for county superintendent of schools. In the campaign following, Beckett won in all the precincts except those two in which the opposing candidate and his sister held positions.

For thirty-two years Mr. Beckett has been dealing in real estate in Arroyo Grande and other parts of San Luis Obispo County, and has handled over \$3,000,000 worth of property in the county without a foreclosure of mortgage to a single settler, a most wonderful record. He has put on as many subdivisions as any other man in the county, is a large landowner, and has farmed more or less ever since he has been in the county. Among the large tracts handled have been the following ranches: Oso Flaco, Chimeas, Tar Springs and Tally-ho; the Verde Colonies (One, Two and Three); the Crown Hill addition; the Corbett tract; E. W. Steele's re-subdivision of the Corral de Piedra ranch; Beckett Park and Beckett Park subdivision tract, which he considers the crowning work of his career and which is deserving of mention. This tract is situated at Pismo Beach, and comprises 1,500 acres (of which he now owns about 1,200 acres), with six avenues one hundred to one hundred twenty feet wide, running three miles east from the ocean, and with as many wide boulevards crossing north and south; the whole, with the beautiful setting of the beach, and with 4,000 feet of water frontage where the beach stretches away five hundred feet wide at lowest tide, being destined to become the heart of a most beautiful ocean beach city. He gave twenty-four acres for a park for Arroyo Grande and a site for the Methodist camp grounds.

Mr. Beckett was a member of the Russian River Rifles of Healdsburg while a resident of that city during the closing years of the Civil War, and later of the Woodland Guards, of which he was orderly sergeant and in line for promotion when he left there. He has been prominent, also, in fraternal circles. He is a member, and for four years was Chancellor Commander, of the



John F. Beckett



Knights of Pythias; he helped organize the Uniform Rank, was Captain three years, and later Major of the battalion, and following this was Major on the staff of Brigadier General James Driffl, commanding the California Brigade. He has taken a very active part in politics, is a pronounced Republican, was elected and served in the state Assembly one term (1912-13), and was a member of the following legislative committees: Ways and means, banks and banking, labor and capital, live stock, dairies and dairy products, and roads and highways. He led the Progressive vote during the session, favored female suffrage, and addressed the Assembly on that issue, having his speech printed in the Assembly Journal. His campaign for this state office was a memorable one in San Luis Obispo County. With fifteen other candidates for the Assembly, and eight candidates for the Senate, he had been black-listed by the Beer Bottlers' Association, acting for the State Brewers' Association, the California Wine Growers' Association and the Royal Arch. The net result of the liquor campaign as waged by those forces was to defeat all but one candidate for the Senate, and five candidates for the Assembly. In his county the liquor forces spent three thousand dollars to defeat him, but he won at the polls by a good majority.

During the session of the legislature several interesting occurrences took place which won for Mr. Beckett especial mention. A bill was referred to the committee on labor and capital for the purpose of reforming abuses of telephone, telegraph and power line conditions; and committees of linemen and representatives of the telephone, telegraph and power companies from all over the state met in conferences, adjourning from day to day, for three days. On the third day extended discussions took place in which it was shown that in many instances the companies had done much better work for the linemen than the bill called for. Changes were asked for that would mean an immediate expense of \$500,000 to the companies; and when these were put to the linemen, they admitted that it would be unfair to make the expenditure all at once when it could be made by degrees. Mr. Beckett thereupon offered the suggestion that, inasmuch as this was a bill affecting only private capital, the linemen and representatives of the power companies go into private conference, settle their own differences and then submit a bill that would be suited to all. This was done, and the bill passed unanimously.

Another bill provided that the City of Los Angeles take over the tide lands in the vicinity of San Pedro and administer them. After an hour's argument on the floor of the Assembly, Beckett said, "Inasmuch as the City of Los Angeles has been able to wrest the seeming title of these lands from the Southern Pacific Company and restore it to the state, it follows as a logical sequence that the City of Los Angeles is the proper custodian to take over and administer those tide lands in the interest and for the benefit of the whole people." This was carried. An amusing incident is narrated. The member from San Joaquin county introduced a bill to exterminate meadowlarks. A Miss Libby, secretary of the Audubon Society of Southern California, in the course of a lecturing tour arrived in Sacramento and did some work to prevent the destruction of the "meadowlark song-birds." In a closing address, before a vote was taken, the member from San Joaquin made this statement: "Two years ago the person who lied about meadowlarks wore pantaloons; this year the person wears female clothes." Mr. Beckett arose and, after being recognized by the speaker, said: "Mr. Speaker, I arise to a question of privilege." The Speaker replied, "Mr.

Beckett, you cannot arise to a question of privilege when a vote is pending." Beckett knew that and sat down; he simply wanted to accentuate the situation. On roll call, he voiced a vigorous "No." The bill was defeated, its proponent voting almost alone. After the vote was taken the Speaker called, "Mr. Beckett." He replied, "Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly, I arise to voice my indignation against the language used by the member of this Assembly who dares to call a woman a liar." Next morning the Sacramento papers complimented Beckett as a defender of women. On the desks of all members appeared cartoons by Hartman showing Beckett on one side of a picture pointing to the member from San Joaquin county; and underneath Beckett's picture were the words, "A near Socialist." On the opposite side was a caricature in the form of a jay bird with a long beak, between the two a brook filled with lilies of the valley, the flower of each representing a woman's face, and under the jay bird was the legend "Stuck in the brook" (Stuckenbruk). Later Mr. Beckett received a note from the president of the Audubon Society, thanking him for his action in defending Miss Libby.

John F. Beckett was commissioner for San Luis Obispo county at the Mid-Winter Fair in San Francisco. He served as delegate to many state and Congressional conventions, and attended as a delegate a state mining convention in San Francisco. He is well informed on the geology of the oil fields, and is an authority on other mineral lands. He served a term of three years, from January 1, 1880, to January 1, 1883, as county superintendent of schools of San Luis Obispo county, the first term under the new constitution; during which he, with the members of the county board of education, drafted a new school manual including a course of study which was mentioned by the state superintendent of schools as one of the best in the state. Mr. Beckett was for many years a member of the county board of education. Although in part a self-educated man, he received his start in the public schools of Oregon and California, and at Sotyome Institute in Healdsburg. When he began teaching school at the age of twenty-two, he took up text-book study by himself, passed successful examinations, and finally received a diploma entitling him to teach as principal in any of the public schools of the state during life.

Mr. Beckett was united in marriage with Miss Isouria Archer, a native of Iowa, and they have two sons, Clarence B. and John A., both living at Oceano. Mrs. Beckett passed away in 1909 after a useful life, and her demise was mourned by a wide circle of friends. Mr. Beckett is as public-spirited as he is successful, and every movement for the upbuilding of the county has his hearty co-operation. He is a live correspondent for local papers, is well and favorably known throughout the county and state, and seems to have many years of usefulness yet before him.

**PATRICK JAMES BLACK.**—A pioneer of California and a man of more than local prominence, Patrick James Black was born in Ireland, April 3, 1830. He was reared and educated in a Catholic seminary in France and later attended St. Servan College. His studies were taken with the intention of entering the priesthood, but he never did so. In 1851, when he was twenty-one years of age, he came from England to the United States on a sailing vessel. He had a fine voyage, although he encountered severe storms which necessitated putting in at Talcahuano, Chile, for repairs, and remaining several weeks. Arriving in California in July, he came at once to the mines in Tuo-

lumne county; and after a time spent in mining, he went to San Francisco and taught one of the first schools, which was held in the Catholic Mission there.

For two years Mr. Black was bookkeeper in the office of Allen, Lowe & Co., agents for the famous Hudson Bay Company. He likewise traveled all over the state in the interests of the Botanical Society of Scotland, gathering data and studying trees, vines, shrubs and flowers. He made a trip into the Yosemite before the discovery of the big trees had attracted much attention, making a collection of cones and seeds; and became well acquainted with Galen Clark, the pioneer of that valley. Nine years were spent in mining at Vancouver Island, in the Frazer river district, and in the Caribou district in British Columbia.

Locating in San Luis Obispo County in September, 1868, Mr. Black engaged in the sheep business for many years, and for a time was manager of the Suey rancho, in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties, which contained forty-five thousand acres. Patrick James Black was married in British Columbia to Maria Morris, a native of Australia, and they have eight sons: John P., James G., Edward W., Charles F., Albert F., Ernest C., William V. and George. These sons and their father are all members of the B. P. O. Elks.

For a man of his years, Mr. Black is very well preserved and keeps abreast of the times by continued reading. He has been very active during his life, and in the early days was fond of hunting. At one time, with a party of friends, he spent six weeks on a hunting trip into the Kern river district and shot bears, antelopes (of which there were thousands), and deer on the present site of Bakersfield. He has been an interested witness of the marvelous growth of California, and is familiar with almost every section of the state. He is now living, retired, with his son, John P., who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume.

**HON. T. R. FINLEY.**—The bench and bar of Central California have many able representatives, men who stand high in their profession because of their profound knowledge of the law, and men who stand high in their communities as leaders in forward movements for the best interests of their section of the country. None of these men are more elevated in the confidence of the people than is Hon. T. R. Finley of Santa Maria, whose twenty years of practice at the bar in California have given him a wide knowledge of the needs of his constituents—a matter of the highest import reflected in the culmination of a successful campaign wherein, in November, 1916, he was elected to the assembly from the fifty-ninth district.

Mr. Finley is a native son of the state, born in Santa Rosa, June 3, 1854, a son of William H. and Ann J. (Maze) Finley. The former was born in Kentucky and died in California, at the age of seventy-two years; the latter was a native of Tennessee and passed away at the same age. Her ancestry dates back to England, whence the first of the name to settle in the United States came to make their home in Virginia, moving from there to Tennessee, and then to Missouri. The paternal side represent the sturdy Scotch whose settlement in this country was made in North Carolina, whence they moved into Kentucky and thence to Missouri. They were married in December, 1852, and in April of 1853 they started on their wedding journey across the plains, with ox teams, for the new Eldorado of California, to hunt for fortune in the gold fields. On arrival here, Mr. Finley mined for a time, and



then embarked in the raising of cattle; and later he followed farming with success, until he retired from active life. There were three children in the family, Charles Howard, a realty broker in Los Angeles; Alice, now Mrs. A. H. Lewis, of Los Angeles; and T. R. Finley, the subject of this review.

T. R. Finley was reared on a farm and early became familiar with the duties necessary to the conduct of a successful farming industry. He was sent to the public schools in Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties, later attended Christian College in Santa Rosa, and then took a course at Hastings Law School, from which he graduated in 1884 with the degree of B. L. and began the practice of his profession in Modesto. Very soon after, he went to Redding, Shasta county, and successfully followed his chosen profession until 1896, when he settled in Santa Maria, where he felt that a wider field was open to him; and from the start he was successful in building up a large clientage.

The comfortable home at 309 East Chapel street, Santa Maria, is presided over by Mrs. Finley, who in maidenhood was Miss Margaret Mearns, a native of Bowmanville, Canada, and a daughter of George and Eliza A. (Smart) Mearns. Her father was a searcher of records for land titles for the old Clay Street Bank of San Francisco, and as such had a wide acquaintance among the pioneers of that city. She was united in marriage with Mr. Finley in San Francisco, in 1888. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Finley, three children have been born: William Howard, who is engaged with his father in the oil and gasoline business, is a graduate of Belmont College, and also took a special course at the University of California; George Mearns, a graduate of Belmont and of the University of California, is now in charge of the gasoline distributing station near Santa Maria; and Theodore, who graduated from Belmont, is now a senior at the University of California.

Mr. Finley has been keenly alive to the opportunities of this section of the state, and has invested wisely in real estate and in the oil industry. He purchased the Hall and Hall lease and compressor plant in the Santa Maria oil fields in 1915. The retail plant is located one mile south of Santa Maria on the state highway, while the manufacturing plant, with a capacity of five hundred gallons daily, is in the oil fields near Orcutt.

In 1902 Mr. Finley was a candidate for district attorney of Santa Barbara county, but was defeated by thirty-six votes. In 1916 he became a candidate for the assembly from the fifty-ninth district and made a very successful campaign, clean and free from the personalities that usually spring up in the heat of a campaign. Mr. Finley won by a good majority. Because of his experience in public affairs, he holds the confidence of the people of his district; for, since he is outspoken in all matters, and is an exponent of good roads and every improvement that will bring settlers to the county, they always know "where Finley stands."

Mr. Finley is a Royal Arch Mason and a member of the Knights of Pythias. With his wife, he favors the Christian Science belief. He is in every way well qualified for the important office to which he has been elected by the people of his district, and will without doubt ably and worthily represent them in the legislature in its forty-second session. He is a member of the following important committees: agriculture, medical and dental laws, elections, oil industries, ways and means, and roads and highways, having been chosen chairman of the latter; and having made a partic-





*M. Sumner*

ular study of the good roads question, he is the right man for that important position. Early in the session, Mr. Finley introduced a bill, carrying an appropriation of \$250,000, which provides for a road from the western boundary line of Kern county near Maricopa, to a point on the state highway near Santa Maria, passing through the Cuyama valley.

**MARION SHIMMIN.**—The possibilities of San Luis Obispo County have called forth the most creditable ambitions of a few men who are destined to make their way in the commercial world, and whose strength of character and conservative judgment have been fundamental to the growth of the commonwealth. This has been emphatically true of Marion Shimmin, whose well-directed energies have placed him among men of standing in the city of Paso Robles and have invested him with an enviable reputation for business sagacity and integrity, tested during the passing of many years. Those who come in contact with him are in accord in believing that so long as the destiny of this great state is committed to such citizenship as he represents, no one need fear for the future of California.

Mr. Shimmin's father was William Edward Shimmin, a native of the Isle of Man who, in 1850, joined one of the great ox-team trains crossing the desert wastes, came to and mined in Nevada, and finally reached California. While he was in Esmeralda county, Nevada, he discovered, with Brawley, the Aurora mines, and was one of the men first to put a pick into the famous Garibaldi. He made and lost several fortunes, went back and forth between the West and the East, and in the end sent for his family, who arrived in San Francisco, via Panama, April 19, 1863.

Marion Shimmin was then four years old, having been born in Wisconsin April 20, 1859. His father and his household resided in Nevada until the fall of 1864, when they removed to Grass Valley. Later they returned to Nevada, and still later, in 1868, settled in Mendocino county, California. A great stock of cattle, horses and wagons had to be transported overland, and Marion, not yet ten years old, rode horseback from Nevada to Mendocino county and assisted in driving and guiding the stock, so often inclined to stray away. They located in Sherwood valley, where Mr. Shimmin became a large stock-raiser. In 1874, they again moved, this time to Tulare county; and in 1881 he came to San Luis Obispo County, where the father, invalidated through a sunstroke, died in 1882. The wife of William Edward Shimmin was Wealthy Paul Farwell, a daughter of Isaac Farwell, a well-known resident of Wisconsin, where she was born. After a life filled with her share of frontier experiences, she died in Fresno county, aged eighty-five years and the mother of eight children.

Fifth among these in the order of their birth, Marion early became used to the rounding up of cattle, riding after stock in Sherwood valley and covering the very ground where, so soon afterward, the terrible Little Lake tragedy occurred. His schooling was limited to frontier facilities, and in the middle seventies he was in charge of a band of horses, going from Mendocino to Tulare county. The next year or two he was with the family at Fresno; but Mendocino and an uncle there drew him back in 1876, and for some time he again rode the open range. His uncle offered him a partnership in his great ranch; but owing to the condition of his father, young Shimmin felt that he ought to care for his parent's interest, and so continued farming and cattle-raising in Fresno county.

In 1881, he bought part of the Corral de Piedra Rancho at San Luis Obispo, and there he remained two years, conducting the farm in as advanced manner as his circumstances would permit. Then he sold out and went to Adelaida, and was there engaged in farming and stock-raising on the Ed. Smith place, a tract of sixteen hundred acres. His next serious venture was in homesteading and pre-empting in the Eagle district, near Shandon, at the same time that his mother and brother, William F., also homesteaded and pre-empted. In the beginning they had some eight hundred acres adjoining, and this they increased to sixteen hundred, when Mr. Shimmin and his relations divided their interests. The brother continued to farm in that vicinity, but on January 12, 1899, Marion Shimmin came to Paso Robles and for the next four years worked for George F. Bell.

He then formed a partnership with Thomas Stevens in a general merchandise business known as Shimmin & Stevens' Emporium, the proprietors commencing with a capital each of \$2,500; and in that business he continued eleven and a half years, at 12th Street near Spring. So great was their prosperity that the business increased to over \$100,000 a year, the firm at the same time, and for some years, having a branch at Shandon with a five thousand dollar stock, while the main store carried goods to the value of \$35,000. When Mr. Stevens became paralyzed in June, 1914, the store was offered for sale, and in December of that year it was disposed of to the Fleisig brothers. Since that time Mr. Shimmin has given himself largely to settling up the business affairs and collecting the old accounts of the firm, as well as to managing his own business interests, lands and properties. He is, indeed, a man of affairs, having become a large stockholder and a director of the Citizens Bank of Paso Robles, as also one of the organizers and a large stockholder of the First National Bank of King City and a stockholder in the States Consolidated Oil Co. He still owns an office building on Spring street, near the corner of 12th.

In May, 1889, in the pretty town of Willits, Mr. Shimmin had married Miss Frankie Upp, a native of Little Lake Valley, a district in which her sister, Sarah, was the first white child born. She is the daughter of Phillip Upp, who was born March 21, 1827, in York county, Pennsylvania, where he learned the carpenter's trade. He removed to St. Louis in 1849, and followed carpentering there until 1856, when he returned to his old home. On March 23, 1856, he was married at Lewistown, Mifflin county, to Susan Hawker, a native of Mercersburg, Pa., where she was born October 26, 1833; and soon after the festivities, they set out for California by way of the Nicaragua route. They traveled from New York to Greytown on the steamer "Orizaba"; but owing to the Walker filibustering expedition, the pioneers were delayed several weeks. Reaching the Pacific, they took the steamer "Sierra Nevada" to San Francisco; and after spending two years in the Sierra region, Mr. Upp located, in June, 1858, in Mendocino county, becoming one of the first settlers in Little Lake valley, where he homesteaded. He built a house, and began pioneering in true Western fashion. He also followed contracting and building in various places in California; and as he was a good mechanic, his talent as a builder was much sought after. As a farmer and stockman, too, he was successful, and accumulated a large tract of land. At their old home near Willits, Mr. and Mrs. Upp lived in comfort; and there they finally died. They had had seven children, two of whom, besides Mrs. Shimmin, are still living: Mrs. Ida Smith, of Paso Robles, and George W. Upp, who resides at Willits.

Mrs. Shimmin was educated under Professor King at the Conservatory of Music, of the University of the Pacific, San Jose, and her pronounced natural talent, together with her superior training, has made her one of the best-known musicians in this section. A son, Marion Francis, reflects most creditably upon his father, as a Standard Oil Co. representative here; while two other children, Cleora and Mildred Inez, are at home.

A Republican in politics and a foremost worker in the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Shimmin was for nine years a trustee for the schools in Paso Robles, and for seven years a school trustee in the Eagle district. He is a member of Santa Lucia Lodge, No. 250, I. O. O. F., of Paso Robles, and is a Past Chief Ranger of the Independent Order of Foresters. He also takes an active interest in religious matters, being a trustee and dean of the Congregational Church.

**RICHARD M. SHACKELFORD.**—Born in Washington county, near the town of Mackville, Ky., January 17, 1834, the late Richard M. Shackelford of Paso Robles was the son of James and Sarah (Dickerson) Shackelford, who were natives of the Blue Grass State. When he was eight years old his parents took him to Missouri; and as he was one of a family of eleven children, it became necessary for him to make an early start to support himself. His opportunities for attending school were limited, but later in life he made up for lost time by going to night school. At the age of eighteen he started across the plains, driving an ox team; and the journey that began March 14, 1852, ended in Sacramento on September 23, of that year.

Young Shackelford was variously employed until 1857, in which year he became identified with a milling enterprise in Marysville. He later established the Merchants' Forwarding Company; but after sustaining severe losses during the floods of 1862, he began freighting across the country to Virginia City, Nev., and while in the latter state was elected to the Assembly which convened immediately after Nevada was admitted to statehood in the Union.

In 1866 Mr. Shackelford located in Los Gatos, Cal., where he conducted a general merchandise store and a lumber yard; and in 1869 he sold out and went to Salinas, purchased the Lorenzo ranch and farmed until 1873, when he sold and moved to Hollister, and engaged in the milling business. The mill he then owned is now one of the many belonging to the Sperry Flour Company. Since 1886, Mr. Shackelford has been identified with Paso Robles. For many years he was connected with the Southern Pacific Milling Company as manager of their warehouses, and later was president of the Salinas Valley Lumber Co.

When he first landed in California, Mr. Shackelford was a Democrat; but he was converted by reading Horace Greeley's articles in the New York Tribune, and he cast his first presidential vote for John C. Fremont. Two weeks after he arrived in Paso Robles, he was appointed a trustee of the school, and for thirty years served continuously on the school board. He was a friend of education and did much to raise the standard of the schools. Mr. Shackelford was often affectionately called the "Father of Paso Robles." He was a Mason and a man of splendid character. In 1880 he was united in marriage with Miss L. McQuestin, who was born in Galena, Ill., and died about 1900, and four children were born of that union. In 1907 he was married the second time, to Mrs. Alice Eugenia Hollister, daughter of

county, Illinois, who still survives him. Mr. Shackelford passed away January 12, 1915, and his death was a severe loss to both San Luis Obispo County and the state.

**JOHN G. PRELL.** The distinction of being the oldest living American settler in the Santa Maria valley is held by John G. Prell, who now resides, retired, in Santa Maria, where he still takes an active interest in all movements for the betterment of the community, being a director in the Valley Savings Bank, a large landowner and, above all, a high-minded man. Of German birth and parentage, he was born in Leipsic, April 5, 1837, a son of Gottfried and Maria (Wittenbecher) Prell. The father owned a small tract of nineteen acres of land, was a stone mason by trade and was about forty-three years old when his son John G. was born, the youngest of four children. The grandfather, also named Gottfried, was a stone mason by trade, lived and died in Saxony, and was an only son of another Gottfried Prell, also a stone mason, who came from the Province of the Palatinate, on the west side of the Rhine.

After the death of the father, his widow, in 1854, brought her four children to America and settled on a heavily timbered farm in Indiana, near South Bend. Only one and one half acres of this tract of land was cleared, and it was there that their log house was built and the little farming operations were begun.

John G. Prell went to school in Germany until he was fourteen, and was confirmed in the Evangelical Lutheran Church. After the arrival of the little family in America, the young lad had to go to work for wages, receiving seven dollars per month in winter and fourteen in summer for work done in a brickyard. He never had an opportunity to go to school after coming to this country, but he has been a student nevertheless all his life, and is a well-informed man. For many years he has been a diligent reader of the newspapers, and has always kept abreast of the times. He worked for wages until 1860, then went to Pikes Peak, Colo., at that time in Kansas, mined for gold there, and was in Golden City from April 1 to June 12, 1860. His money was nearly gone, he having but thirty-five dollars to his name; and gold at that time was uncertain. He was too proud to go back home and be counted a failure; so he determined to go West, and was fortunate in meeting two brothers named Hull, from Iowa, who were on their way to California. He asked about coming with them, and when they said that they wanted seventy-five dollars to take him through, Mr. Prell replied, "I have only thirty-five dollars." They then said, "You seem to be a good, honest boy, and you can work out the balance when you get to California"; and after parting with his thirty-five dollars, he had but ten cents in his pocket. He worked during the passage to pay for his meals, but walked all the way from Denver, except about ten miles and when he was fording the streams and rivers, in order to save the horses.

Arriving in California, Mr. Prell met a man who hired him to do some placer mining on shares, his share to be one third of the amount washed out. This he continued for six weeks, when he drew his share, \$144. He went to the Hull brothers, who had gone to the Vaca valley, in Solano county, and paid them the balance due; and then going to Santa Clara county, he worked on a farm, plowing with a three-mule team and a walking plow all winter, for thirty dollars a month.







*John G. Prell.*



*Eliza Orell*



In 1861 Mr. Prell, with a company of six men, started for Mexico to seek some cheap land; but when they got to a point opposite Yuma, Ariz., on the Colorado river, they found that the water was very high; and as there were no boats, these having been destroyed during war time, they could not cross the stream; so they turned back to Los Angeles. Mr. Prell intended to return to San Jose, when he met a Frenchman who was looking for a man who could mould bricks. When he was informed by Mr. Prell that he could do the work, he was hired on the spot for five dollars per day, and went to work.

Saving the money he thus earned, after paying expenses, this energetic German-American went back to San Jose, bought a lease from a rancher and began for himself. He put in his crop; but the winter was so wet, with sixty-six inches of rain, and the mustard so thick and high, that it proved too expensive to harvest, and he gave the crop, good though it was, to the owner of the land to cancel his rent, losing \$200 thereby. He was then that amount worse off than nothing; so he went to work in the brickyards again. The following year he returned to farming and succeeded, continuing until 1866, when, in October, he sold out and, having \$2,200 in gold, decided to go back to Indiana and visit his folks at South Bend. Mr. Prell, however, had had a taste of California climate, as a result of which he did not like the cold winters of the East. He also had become acquainted with his present wife, and they had arranged to get married when he should get some land of his own. So he went to southwestern Missouri, and in Jasper county bought three hundred twenty acres for six dollars an acre, a farm located about sixty miles west from Springfield.

At Raleigh, Mo., therefore, Mr. Prell was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Bower, who was born September 16, 1846, at Massillon, O., a daughter of Hugh and Mary (Shook) Bower, of Scotch and German descent. She had three brothers and two sisters; but only herself and a brother, John J. of Michigan, are living. Mrs. Prell had come from her home in South Bend, Ind., to meet Mr. Prell, and they were married on June 8, 1867. Her grandfather, David Shook, was an officer in the War of 1812, and settled in Ohio when there were but four houses in the town of Canton. Mr. Shook was a cabinet-maker by trade, and was often called upon to make coffins in those early pioneer days, for which he received the sum of two dollars. Mrs. Prell remembers when they were made for two dollars and a half. Then undertakers charged but five dollars for their services. Mrs. Prell left her home and friends, where she was surrounded with many comforts, to join the man of her choice in the wilderness, and to her is due a great deal of credit for the part taken by them in the development of the resources of the West.

During the Civil War, Jasper county as well as other sections had been devastated by the contending armies, and houses and buildings had been burned; Mr. Prell, therefore, planted only seventy acres to grain. He was taken sick with malaria, fever and ague, and being discouraged, he sold out, determining to get back to California, his land of opportunity. He and his wife went to New York and took a steamer to Panama, crossed the isthmus and boarded the steamer "Golden Gate" for San Francisco, going direct on their arrival to Santa Clara county and to the same farm he had worked before. This land he leased and put in a crop in 1868. He was still looking for a location where he might settle down and get some land very cheap; so he came down into the Santa Maria valley to prospect, and finally pre-empted one

hundred sixty acres, three miles southeast from what is now Santa Maria, made his location, went back to Santa Clara county, settled his affairs and returned to his pre-emption about November 1, 1868. He bought lumber for his house in San Luis Obispo, hauled it to his ranch with a six-horse team, mired down eight times, and had to unload three times before he finally got to his destination. He erected a house, this being the first house built in the settlement outside of Guadalupe. What was often demanded of pioneers may be judged from the fact that Mr. Prell, having one more year to go with his lease in the north, went back and put in twenty acres of barley for the 1869 crop, harvested it, and then, with his wife and baby, came to the valley in September, 1869, and moved into his house, which he had enlarged. In this section he has lived and prospered ever since.

Having saved some money, in 1882 he bought three hundred twenty acres of school land, and later added eighty acres more. In the year 1880 Mr. Prell raised over nineteen thousand centals of grain, two thirds wheat and the rest barley. He plowed and sowed the land all alone, averaging twelve acres per day. This was his first real financial success. He began leasing land and for years was a large farmer, succeeding, as the time passed, in getting together a snug fortune, so that now, in his old age, he has no worries to harass him, for he is independent.

The four children in the family are John S., a civil engineer of San Francisco; Lillian, who married W. S. Cook and lives in Los Angeles with her four children, John A., Harry, Dewey D., and Dorothy; Mrs. Blanche Vincent, a widow, who, with one son, Eric V., lives with her parents and assists her mother in keeping house; and Laura, who died aged six years.

In 1910 Mr. Prell retired from the ranch, bought a lot and erected his present fine bungalow home at the corner of Mill and Thornburg streets in Santa Maria, where he and his wife live, surrounded by every comfort. It was about this time that Mr. Prell made an extended trip back to Germany to see the country, where he found many changes since he lived there as a lad. He returned to California, more pleased than ever with the possibilities of his adopted state, for here he made his success.

Mr. Prell cast his first vote at the election in Indiana when Schuyler Colfax was sent to Congress, thus having the satisfaction of seeing a man elected for whom he cast his first ballot, and who later became Vice-President when U. S. Grant was first elected. Mr. Prell joined the Odd Fellows in Indiana at this time, the degrees being conferred upon him by Mr. Colfax, and he has been a member of the order for fifty-nine years, now belonging to the Santa Maria Lodge, No. 302, which he helped to organize and of which he is a charter member. He is also a charter member of Hesperian Lodge, No. 264, F. & A. M. He has always been interested in the cause of education, and for many years served as a trustee of Pleasant Valley district, of which he was one of the organizers; and he did much by his influence to raise the standard of the schools in the valley.

Mr. Prell has accumulated a competence through his own efforts and by the aid of his family with everybody. He has ever had a kindly word for the discouraged and unfortunate, and has given towards all worthy causes for those in dire distress. He is as bright and alert as a man of fifty, makes and retains friends, and with his wife, who has ever been a willing assistant, can look back upon pioneer days in this state and truly say that they have

done their duty, as they have seen it, and may now enjoy a well-earned leisure, surrounded by a legion of friends and well-wishers.

**MARIA ZORADA KING.**—To the women who have taken an active interest in the upbuilding of the various interests of the state, great credit should be given, especially to those women who, through family ties, represent the native Californian, and possess that grace and ease of manner so characteristic of the true Castilian. Among these is numbered Mrs. Maria Zorada King, a native of California, born in Santa Barbara, a daughter of Juan P. and Benina (Neito) Olivera. The former was born in Los Angeles, was the owner of the Tepesquet rancho of nine thousand acres, and died in Los Angeles, aged ninety-three years. His father, Thomas Olivera, was a native of Spain and was the first owner of the Tepesquet rancho, which he afterwards sold to Pacifico Ontiveros. He died at an advanced age.

Maria Z. Olivera, daughter of a proud Spanish family, received her education in the grammar school and in the Sisters' College at Santa Barbara. She was twice married, first in 1877, when she was wedded to Salvador Ontiveros, who was born in Los Angeles in 1842, a brother of Abraham Ontiveros, whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work. At one time he became owner of fourteen thousand acres of the Tepesquet rancho, by inheritance from his father and by purchase from his brothers and sisters. Through the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Ontiveros, five children were born: Sinicio L., who married, and died without children; Zorada G., wife of L. F. Hughes, of Santa Maria; Fulgincio S., rancher on the Tepesquet; Mona Ero-linda, wife of Jack Portenstein of Los Angeles; and Ernest L., of Santa Maria. Mr. Ontiveros died in 1891. The second marriage united Mrs. Ontiveros with Dr. Arthur Morgan King, who was born in Missouri, practiced medicine and osteopathy for some years, and died in Santa Maria, January 7, 1913.

Mrs. King has been a lifelong resident of Santa Barbara county, and through her own family and by marriage with Mr. Ontiveros, represents two of the very oldest Spanish families in California. She has devoted her life to rearing her children and maintaining her home, is public-spirited to a marked degree, and has a wide circle of friends in the county. She sold her interest in the fourteen-thousand-acre ranch and retired to a home in Santa Maria at 515 East Main street, where she dispenses that gracious hospitality so characteristic of the Spanish people.

**LEVI EXLINE.**—Not every man is so happy in the selection of his life-motto as Levi Exline, the upright, honest and reliable farmer and horticulturist, and oldest settler of Oak Flat, whose motto is, "Do right, and it will be right." Born in Coshocton county, not far from Zanesville, O., on January 15, 1844, he was the son of Adam Exline, a native of Pennsylvania, born in the year 1793, and a member of an old Virginia family that removed to Pennsylvania, and then to Indiana in 1845. Adam Exline settled in a new and wild country near where Bloomfield, Greene county, Indiana, later was founded. There he took up heavy timber land and became a wagon maker, running a wagon and carriage shop; and in good, old-fashioned style he cut his material from the hickory forest on his place and so successfully seasoned the timber that his wagons seemed as if they never would wear out. Yet he remained a poor man and died in modest circumstances, in 1862. Levi's mother was Miss Christene Saucerman, of Pennsylvania German

parentage, she died in 1878. She had nine children, but only two are living, and Levi Exline is the only one in California; a brother, William, lives in Texas. The oldest brother, George A. Exline, served in the 85th Indiana Regiment during the Civil War. He was taken prisoner, and was confined in Libby Prison. He died at the old Hoosier home in Greene county, in December, 1910.

Levi was reared on the Indiana farm, from which in winters he attended the local school with its log house, slab benches, and similar crude furnishings, or lack of them. He was handy with tools, his father having a good set of the necessary implements, and got such a helpful start in life that in August, 1868, he left New York for California, then, as now, regarded by so many Easterners as the Land of Promise. From New York he took the boat to Aspinwall, and from there crossed the Isthmus by rail, proceeding north along the coast on the steamship "Golden Age" and arriving in San Francisco in September, 1868, at the end of a twenty-five days' trip. He next went to Sacramento and then to Eldorado county, where he remained two months; and from there he journeyed to Paso Robles Hot Springs. After a year he returned to Eldorado county, and spent the summer in mining; but having a brother at Paso Robles, he came back in 1875 and pitched his tent along the Salinas river.

Two years later he located on his present homestead, where he developed water; in Gallinas (Chicken) creek there seemed to be a sort of clay that kept the water from coming to the surface. When he located in this place it was railroad land; but as the railroad had not done its part in the development of the country, the land went back to the government. He was therefore eight years proving up on his place three miles west from Paso Robles, at Oak Flat. He made improvements on the one-hundred-sixty-acre claim, and then he purchased another one hundred sixty acres. He cleared the land and plowed it, raised hay and set out fruit, and now he has an orchard thirty-five years old, still bearing. He has had gardens, and has been a leader in raising vegetables and fruit, for his place is well adapted for apples, pears, peaches and figs, and so well adapted that he has produced excellent fruit without irrigation. The fig trees he once set out have grown to enormous size, and now make a complete bower in front of his residence. The grape vines, also, have grown to almost fabulous size, and he is now setting out Bartlett pears and an almond orchard of forty acres.

In August, 1878, Levi Exline was married to Miss Emma Stone, who was born at Lake Geneva, in Wisconsin, the daughter of Samuel and Addie (Marshall) Stone, natives of Long Island and Connecticut respectively, who had moved west. The father was a moulder by trade. Mrs. Exline attended school at Visalia, and taught school, from fifteen until her marriage. Well-posted on soil and climate, as well as on values, she started in the real estate business; and with her son-in-law, Mr. Woolman, she organized the Paso Robles Realty Co. Both partners are conservative and conscientious, buying, subdividing and selling lands, and doing an insurance business. They purchased, for example, a three-thousand-acre ranch in Monterey, and they have also, aside from the home place, a two-hundred-acre ranch at Paso Robles. Besides, they have made some good real estate deals. In 1913, alone, Mrs. Exline sold lands to the value of \$180,000. Four children bless this excellent couple: Verne, a farmer on land adjoining the old home; Clyde, now Mrs.







*W C Bennett*

Louis Woolman, of Paso Robles; Hazel, the pride of her husband, Mr. Young, the Southern Pacific agent at Templeton; and Bernice, who lives at home. For twenty years Mr. Exline has been a trustee of the school in the Oakfield district.

**WARREN C. BENNETT.**—A man of wide business experience, with a well-stored mind, and an agreeable conversationalist who wins you more and more as you come to know him, is Warren C. Bennett, president of the Citizens Bank of Paso Robles, a native of Waverly, Mich., whose father, George H., was born in Devonshire, England, and came to the United States in 1855, first locating in Hillside county, Mich. He had been a wheelwright by trade, but on coming to Michigan began contracting and building flour mills, residing at Waverly, Van Buren county, and later in Allegan. At first he built the old buhr mills, but when the new roller process came into vogue, he became agent for the Nordyke and Marmian roller process, as well as for the La Felle water-wheel, and built the improved form of mill all over the Southern Peninsula of Michigan. On Washington's birthday, 1859, he was married at Jonesville, Mich., to Miss Jane Brain, a native of Birmingham, England, and the daughter of Richard Brain, a brick-mason, who was a noted builder of the very tall chimneys abounding in the manufacturing centers of England. He brought his family to Michigan and settled on a farm near Jonesville. Six of their seven children are still living.

During the Civil War, Warren's father, with true patriotism, volunteered to join a Michigan regiment, but was rejected. He then volunteered his services for construction work, and was long engaged by the Federal Government to build bridges in the South. In 1886, he joined his son, Warren, who had located in Tulare county, California, and a year later he came to Paso Robles, where he busied himself as a builder until he retired. In 1916, he removed to San Jose, and there he and Mrs. Bennett now make their residence.

The fourth eldest of the children born to this worthy couple, and one of five who have come to California, Warren Bennett was born July 7, 1864, and was reared in Allegan, where he received a high school education. He selected the moulder's trade, and completed an apprenticeship in the Allegan Foundry, where he became the foreman. A year later, however, desiring another field of activity, he began the study of pharmacy, taking a clerkship in a drug store of that town, where he continued until 1885. Then he located at Traver, Tulare county. The place at that time was a live city and an important shipping point with large warehouses; and he soon enjoyed considerable prosperity as the manager of a drug store and as an assistant under Postmaster Rockwell.

In the fall of 1888, he came to Paso Robles to engage in the apothecary line; and leasing the corner at Twelfth and Park streets, he erected there a handsome building. On January 1, 1889, he opened the drug store long so favorably identified with his name, and from the first met with exceptional success. Seven years later, finding that he could not buy the lot, he moved the building and store to the middle of the block on Twelfth street between Park and Pine, and there continued business. The People's Drug Store was popular, and his expert knowledge of medicine and drugs was fully appreciated by his fellow-townsmen, as a result of which Mr. Bennett had a large and lucrative patronage.

In June, 1910, he completed a new brick block on the same site—a two-story building, 50x80 in size, with provision for stores and offices. The old store was moved again, this time to Pine street, between Twelfth and Thirteenth, and there, still a good structure, it is used for business purposes.

On December 14, 1914, Mr. Bennett sold his drug trade and good-will—and seldom did that old-fashioned phrase mean more to a successor—and since then he has been devoting all of his time to his other varied interests. Always a promoter of business enterprises, he was one of the organizers, in 1892, of the Citizens Bank of Paso Robles, in 1893 becoming a director and still later vice-president. Since 1904 he has been popular as the bank's very progressive president, for under his wise supervision and that of the cashier, Al Pfister, the bank has been made the strongest financial institution in northern San Luis Obispo County, as also one of the strongest in the county. Alden Anderson had come to them when the Bank of Paso Robles was in sore straits and implored them to take it over. Mr. Bennett said that he did not want his stockholders to lose twenty thousand dollars or more, much as he desired to save them, and told him that he and his associates would liquidate the bank free of charge. Finally, through Anderson's persuasion, the bank examiners took it over with a guarantee against a loss not greater than ten thousand dollars. This was done, and in due time the depositors of the Bank of Paso Robles were paid one hundred cents on the dollar. It is needless to say that the bank enjoys the confidence of the people for its conservative policy and its consequent substantiality. For many years the Citizens Bank has maintained a branch at San Miguel, and the increase in business there has necessitated the erection of a new concrete mission-style bank building, which was begun early in 1917. Mr. Bennett, with two or three others, organized the First National Bank of King City, with a capital of sixty thousand dollars, he becoming a director and vice-president. So well has the bank been established that there are already over one hundred thirty stockholders in southern Monterey county, and a modern concrete building has been erected at a cost of twenty thousand dollars.

For years Mr. Bennett has been engaged in farming, and he is the owner of several desirable tracts of land. One is a grain ranch near Estrella, and two ranches near Paso Robles are devoted to raising fruit. He is subdividing two hundred sixty-seven acres adjoining the city and is setting out almond trees. A large ranch devoted to raising cattle, located fifty miles from Klamath Falls, Ore., and a farm near Aberdeen, Bingham county, Ida., are also owned by him.

At Fort Klamath, Mr. Bennett was united in marriage with Mrs. Anna Randolph (Wright) Sillsby, a native of Edwardsville, Ill., and a daughter of Dr. J. S. Wright, who practiced his profession there and at Newton, Ia., dying at the latter place. Her mother was Mary Isabelle Randolph, a native of Illinois and a descendant of the Virginia Randolphs. Mrs. Bennett received a liberal education, specializing in music under Professor Büchel, a Leipsic graduate, after which she taught music. In 1889 she removed to Oregon, and in 1897 to California, still teaching voice and piano most of the time. Becoming interested in library work, she accepted the position of librarian at the Carnegie library in Paso Robles and later in San Luis Obispo. Mr. Bennett has served as trustee of Paso Robles and also as mayor, and during his term the new library building was erected. Fraternally he is a

Mason, and is a member of Paso Robles Lodge No. 285, F. & A. M., and has served as master two terms. Mrs. Bennett is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

**CHRISTIAN KORTNER.**—From the picturesque mountains of Norway have come many of the best citizens of this section of California, and the Santa Maria valley has its quota of these admirable Scandinavian men and women, whose special field has ever been the sea and soil. They have a native spirit of honesty, and love of home and fellow men, traits of character that enable them, when they are transplanted to America, to rank among the most desirable citizens.

Such a man is Christian Kortner, now living retired, with his son James, on a part of the Arellanes ranch, three miles west of Orcutt. He was born at Porsgrund, Norway, January 14, 1845, and while a youth went to sea, as did his father before him. For seven years Christian Kortner was a sailor; and having touched at the port of New York, he shipped on the "Twilight," an American vessel, around the Horn for San Francisco, arriving there in 1868. Leaving the ship, he went to work in Alameda county on a ranch and remained there for two years; and then he moved to the San Joaquin valley, where he stayed for a like period.

Four years were spent in Monterey county, ranching, after which he put in the years 1877-78 in Colusa county. Nine more years were spent in San Luis Obispo County in the vicinity of Nipomo, where finally he located on the Tequesquet in the Santa Maria valley, settling on a ranch in the fall of 1891. He first farmed two hundred fifteen acres, then leased land wherever he could do so with profit, and soon became one of the largest grain ranchers in the valley, locating on his present ranch in 1913.

In May, 1887, Mr. Kortner was united in marriage with Mrs. Maria (Hanson) Petersen, a native of Denmark who, by a former husband, had four children: Ellen, who is Mrs. George Tunnell of Santa Maria; Rasmus, who died in 1910; and Maria and James. Of the union with Mr. Kortner, the following children were born: Olga, wife of Walter Elliott of Orcutt; and Laura, Christian, and Henry.

In politics, Mr. Kortner votes the Democratic ticket; in religion, he is a member of the Lutheran Church; as a friend of education, he has always supported the public schools; and he is interested in every movement for the uplift of humanity.

**JAMES KORTNER.**—An up-to-date, aggressive, progressive rancher and a native son of the state, James Kortner was born on his father's ranch in San Luis Obispo County, near Nipomo, October 27, 1885, a son of Christian Kortner (whose sketch appears on this page) and his wife, Maria. He has under lease about sixteen hundred acres of the Arellanes ranch, three hundred fifty acres of which he farms, while he sub-leases three hundred acres, and on the balance, which is hill and pasture land, he runs cattle. Mr. Kortner is a large bean and stock raiser, being very successful with both.

After leaving the public school, James Kortner at once went to work for his father, and at an early age became familiar with the various branches of farm work. Being also naturally of a mechanical turn of mind, he acquired much skill in the running of farm machinery, which has come into good use in the later years.

Besides ranch interests, he runs a bean-threshing outfit consisting of a Ventura 26-32 separator, Mogul gasoline tractor engine of the 8-16 class, and six wagons with beds especially built for harvesting beans—the whole representing an investment of about \$2,600. In the threshing season he employs twenty men.

During the years Mr. Kortner has been operating his threshing outfit and ranch, he has built up a reputation for square dealing and efficient service. He is a booster for Santa Maria valley and environs, supports all uplifting movements and has won a large circle of friends, who admire his many admirable characteristics.

**SAMUEL GRAY.**—Beginning life a poor boy, with but little to look forward to in the way of more than the ordinary comforts of life, Samuel Gray has grown rich far beyond his expectations when he settled on a ranch of one hundred sixty acres in the Santa Maria valley. He has also grown in the esteem of his fellow men, and with an untarnished record for integrity and square dealing is living in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest. Samuel Gray was born in County Antrim, Ireland, in 1861, a son of James and Mary Ann (Boyd) Gray, both of whom were born, lived and died in their native land, the father passing away in his sixty-fifth year. The grandfather, Robert Gray, a farmer, reached the age of four score ere he answered the final call. Besides Samuel, two brothers—Robert, a farmer near Belfast, Ireland, and Michael, in New York state—and a sister, Mary Jane Bryson, also in New York state, comprised the household of James Gray and his wife.

Samuel Gray attended the subscription schools in Ireland, was reared on a farm, and at the age of twenty-two was united in marriage with Miss Jennie McKeen. Soon after, the young people sailed for America on their wedding journey, in search of a location where they might settle down and make a home and enjoy privileges that were not offered in their native land. Arriving in the United States, they settled in Allegheny, Penn., where Mr. Gray got work in the harvest fields, binding wheat at a salary of nineteen dollars a month. His next place of employment was in the Allegheny rolling mills, and later he was employed in a pottery, and in 1881 in marble works.

With the able assistance of his good wife, he saved some money from his earnings, and in 1882 they started for California, the land of promise, intending to get a little farm and take up agriculture as a more satisfactory way of making a living and laying aside for a "rainy" day. Arriving in San Luis Obispo County, Mr. Gray worked for wages on various ranches in order to become familiar with the farm methods used by Californians; and the pay being good and expenses only nominal, he was able in time to purchase one hundred sixty acres of cheap land where the town of Orcutt now stands, little the more that underneath the sod lay wealth that in a few years would

bring him the discovery of oil, Mr. Gray laid out what is known as Gray's addition, at Orcutt, and finally he sold out. This was but the beginning of his prosperity. From time to time he bought land, and now he owns two valuable ranches in Santa Barbara county, and one large ranch of 2960 acres in San Luis Obispo County. On one of the former, he has a fine artesian well which greatly enhances the value of the property. Mr. Gray has speculated in oil to some extent, and the proceeds from this source have netted him a small fortune.





Mrs H. E. Egle.

Notwithstanding his activities in oil and real estate, he has given of his time and means to further the upbuilding of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. He is a friend of education; and by his service as trustee of the Agricola district, he has done much to elevate the standard of the school, serving in 1916 as president of the board. Mr. and Mrs. Gray are members of the Presbyterian Church in Santa Maria and are liberal contributors towards all worthy charities. Mr. Gray is a firm believer in the future greatness of the state. He is a kindly, agreeable, large-hearted man; and during his long residence in the county he has won a large circle of friends.

From the union of Mr. and Mrs. Gray, several children have been born: Robert married Miss Marian Reed and is ranching in Santa Barbara county; Annie married Jack Shannon and lives in Oakland; David is at home, assisting his father on the ranch; Sadie married Alex Fee, and lives in San Francisco; Thomas and John are on the home ranch; and Jeanie, Mrs. Merritt, lives in Santa Maria.

**MRS. HARRIET ESTHER EXLINE.**—During the long association of the Exline family with San Luis Obispo County no name has been more familiar in the section about Paso Robles than that of Mrs. Harriet Esther Exline. She was born in Will county, Ill., a daughter of Elvin Kendrick Warner, a native of Vermont, born at the foot of the Green Mountains, and descended from Col. Seth Warner of Revolutionary fame. The father moved to Wisconsin and located in Fond du Lac, where he commanded a three-master on the Fox river. He served in the 5th Wisconsin Regiment during the Civil War, after which he removed to Iowa and farmed near Newton, Jasper county, until he died. His wife was Adeline Garrett, born in New York and descended from the Howlands, a prominent old York State family. She died in Newton, Ia., leaving four children, three now living. Milton C. makes his home with Mrs. Exline; Harriet Esther is the subject of this review; Archibald G. is auditor for a railroad and resides in Des Moines, Ia.; and Elvin died in Watsonville, Cal.

Mrs. Exline was educated in the public schools and Hazeldell Academy, from which she was graduated; and soon after, September 27, 1881, she married William H. Exline. He was born in Eldorado county, Cal., in 1859, the son of Bernard Exline, also represented in this work, and was educated in the public schools of California and Iowa, later attending the Hazeldell Academy.

After their marriage the young people came to California in 1882, and settled on the ranch that is now the home of Mrs. Exline, where they engaged in ranching, successfully raising stock and grain until Mr. Exline died, June 7, 1886, near Paso Robles. Mr. Exline took an active interest in public matters, serving his community both as road overseer and as constable. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Exline has carried on the ranch work herself, with business ability and tact, and has been very successful. She has devoted her entire time and attention to the details of the ranch and to bringing up her four children. For many years she conducted a dairy and had a milk route in Paso Robles, but gave her attention chiefly to hay, grain and cattle. She has sold off some of the land and now retains one hundred sixty acres, devoted to farming, besides which she owns residence property in Paso Robles on Park street.



She is a Republican and much interested in the prosperity of the country. She has had to make her own way in the world since the death of her husband, and that she has succeeded financially is well evidenced. Her four children are Ada Belle, now Mrs. Riley of Long Beach; William T., the cattle buyer in Paso Robles; Vesta Iona, wife of Ray Benadon; and Alice Henrietta, wife of Joseph Brown, the latter couple both residents of Paso Robles.

Much credit should be given to women who, like Mrs. Exline, when the mantle of grave responsibility falls upon them, take up their task bravely and unflinchingly. She not only succeeded in keeping her property intact and making a success of her farming enterprise, but she also reared and educated her family of four children. She is liberal and charitable to a marked degree; and by her kindly qualities, coupled with her amiable manner, she has endeared herself to her many friends, who admire her for her sterling worth.

An excellent idea of Mrs. Exline's literary work, and evidence of her patriotic sentiments, may be had from her poem entitled "California."

### CALIFORNIA.

It may not be ringing through song and through story,  
What magic would hasten the world to our fold;  
But nature's own queen in her temple of glory  
Has written the secret on tablets of gold.

She tells to the world of a land where December  
Is garish with flowers and dainty with ferns,  
Where summer dies not with the dying September,  
But garlands with roses our holiday urns.

When nature baptizes anew from her fountains,  
Our summer is ended and springtime begun,  
While winter's white plumes lie asleep on the mountains,  
Unmarked by a footstep, unmoved by the sun.

The pink and white blossoms of springtime keep shifting,  
And summer's soft smiles greater riches unfold,  
And the languorous poppy, her yellow crown lifting,  
Sees all the green valleys changed slowly to gold.

The air is so pure that a weary de Leon  
Might dream that his fountain was spraying our clime,  
While silver-voiced birds trill a musical paeon,  
And nature re-echoes the chorus sublime.

Her sader, still louder its praises keep ringing,  
Till ocean to ocean the story shall tell,  
And now Mecca waits at the font of the singing;  
Drink thou of its waters and thou shalt be well.

Her gold called the many, their nature enchained them,  
And willing allegiance she won from each breast;  
While pride in her children through love has proclaimed them  
Her children and sons of the fair Golden West.

**HIRAM TAYLOR.**—It does not take some men long to move, especially when a matter of public welfare is up for consideration, as was shown some years ago when Hiram Taylor concluded that the old street car line, which had been operated by horse-power from the Mud Baths at Paso Robles to the Hot Springs Hotel and on to the depot, two miles and more, had become an eye-sore which should be removed for the beauty of the town. The rails stood above or below the level of the street, as the case might be, and yet the citizens had tried in vain to get rid of the obstruction. While performing civic duties, as a member of the town board, Mr. Taylor found that a quarter interest in the railway was owned by a man in Paso Robles, who would not consent to the rails being removed, as he hoped thereby to keep the franchise alive and so to facilitate its sale to advantage. He also found that the other three-quarter interest was held in Los Angeles, but for the very small sum of five hundred dollars. Without delay or ado, Mr. Taylor went south and purchased a majority of the stock, returned and announced his possession, at the same time declaring that he would refuse to operate the road; whereupon the holder of the minor interest agreed to let the city tear up the car tracks and to place the rails and ties on a vacant lot. The progressive citizen, through whose enterprise and generosity Paso Robles thus rid itself of a standing annoyance, was born in Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, on September 29, 1854, the son of Alexander Taylor, a native of Illinois, who had come to Knox county, Mo., and from there, about 1849, had crossed the plains with ox teams to the gold diggings in California. Two years later Alexander Taylor returned East, by way of Panama, to his wife, formerly Miss Keziah Snellon, a native of Kentucky, and their three small children. In 1853, he once more traversed the plains, stopping only when he reached the new settlement of Santa Rosa, where he hauled rails for the first fence in the town. For four years he ranched there, and then moved on to Oat Valley, north of Cloverdale. The place had become a station for freighters, and Mr. Taylor saw his opportunity to start a hotel. A few years afterward he went to Point Arena, in Mendocino county, where he engaged in getting out trees for posts, ties, shingles, shakes and lumber, much of which was shipped by boat to San Francisco. On his return to Cloverdale, he continued farming until 1869, when he removed to San Miguel, where he pre-empted a hundred sixty acres of land and homesteaded another parcel of the same amount on the Monterey and San Luis Obispo County line, which he sold at the end of about ten years. His next location was in Slack's Cañon, now Stone Cañon, in Monterey county, and there he took up the work of stock-raising until he retired. His wife died at the age of sixty-seven; and thereafter he resided with his daughter, Mrs. R. S. Cruess, at Indian Valley, until his death, at the age of seventy-one. Nine children were born to them, and of this number two are living: the subject of our sketch and a brother, James, who is serving his fifth term as county treasurer of Monterey county.

Hiram Taylor, or "Hi" Taylor, as he is familiarly called, was brought up on a farm. His education was confined to six months in all, school advantages in those days being limited. He still remembers the school near his father's homestead, on the present site of McKay Station, and the description of it is full of interest today. It was the first school built there, and was constructed through the elevation of a top rail placed around in a circle in accordance with the size of the room desired, and the stacking up

against it of brush, on all sides, instead of a wooden or other wall. Boxes were used instead of benches and seats; and there was no roof over the structure. When the hastily improvised room was not wanted for school purposes, it was called into requisition as a meeting place for divine worship. Lucretia Morehouse, now Mrs. Finley of Paso Robles, was the first teacher.

His father having lost practically all he possessed, Hiram worked out to help the family along, mostly in the saddle, riding the range. In April, 1876, he drove a bunch of cattle through for J. C. Austin, from Parkfield to Arizona, and there ran them on the range on shares until he sold them in September, 1877, and returned to his home. In the following year Hiram and his two brothers, James and Wiseman, started a cattle-raising enterprise, putting their stock out to graze in Stone Cañon. There Wiseman was accidentally killed, and then Hiram and James continued the business until 1898, when they dissolved partnership. Until August 13, 1904, Hiram raised stock in Stone Cañon. During this time he accumulated a ranch of eighteen hundred acres in one body in Stone Cañon, stocking it with cattle, of which he sometimes had as many as fifteen hundred head, and raising droves of hogs. He extended his range until it took in some three thousand acres.

About 1890, he set up in the butcher business in Salinas. He chose the design of a window sash for his brand; and under this unique symbol his cattle became famous. His place was known as the old Smith Ranch, because it had been bought from a man named Smith. In 1904 he leased out the ranch, and sold the stock; and two years later he sold the ranch. In 1904, also, he located in Paso Robles and engaged in the livery and feed stable business. He built a large stable on Pine street between Thirteenth and Fourteenth, and remained proprietor of the establishment until 1911, when he sold the investment.

Since then he has been in the cattle business as raiser, dealer and shipper, in partnership with H. S. Cahill; and together they leased the Sargent Ranch at Bradley, in Monterey county, conducting the same under the name of Taylor & Cahill. This ranch comprises fifteen thousand acres on the Salinas river; and in order to secure sufficient stock for their range, they brought cattle from other parts of the county when drought or other conditions enabled them to buy to advantage. From Mexico, for example, they brought train load after train load, some trains containing fifty or more cars; and when they had fattened the cattle on the range, they sold them in the markets of San Francisco and Los Angeles. In 1915, they brought a train load of cattle from Nevada, and again two shipments from that state in 1916.

Mr. Taylor has owned various properties in Paso Robles, but most of these he has finally disposed of. Several years ago he was one of the organizers of the Paso Robles Pharmacy, and the company erected a building for their drug store; later they sold the business and in 1917 disposed of the building. He was a member of the board of trustees, for one term, of the city of Paso Robles, and previously served as a school trustee in Slack's Cañon. He was a prime mover in building the Athletic Park in Paso Robles, which adds much to the attraction of the town. With three others, he laid out the grounds, built the grand stand and graded the diamond; and when the park was opened in 1911, as one of the finest in the state, it was dedicated with a genuine "Wild West" show, of which he was master of ceremonies. A free barbecue, for which half a dozen giant steers were slaughtered, added





*Alden B. Spomer*

to the popularity of the occasion and completed the success. Four years later, when Mr. Taylor desired to retire from the management, the Chamber of Commerce was glad to assume responsibility for the pleasure grounds.

In the old mission town of San Luis Obispo, March 8, 1895, Hiram Taylor was married to Miss Alicia May Azbell, who was born at San Emidio, Kern county. She was a daughter of Newton Azbell, a pioneer of California who crossed the plains with his parents in 1850. Grandfather Azbell died of cholera en route, and his widow brought the family through to California. Newton Azbell was married at Cambria to Eliza Davis, a native of Oregon, a daughter of George and Alicia (Sumner) Davis, who are represented elsewhere in this work. Newton Azbell was a pioneer farmer in San Luis Obispo and later in Monterey county. He died in July, 1903, and his wife, November 11, 1912. Mrs. Taylor was educated in the public schools of Indian Valley and at San Miguel. Two children, Grace Helen and Carl Hiram, have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, and have contributed to the proud parents' popularity both in the town with which he has been so long identified, and in the inner circles of the Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias, of which he is an honored and valued member.

**ALDEN BRADFORD SPOONER.**—The sterling personal characteristics, accompanied by unquestioned executive ability, which have placed Alden Bradford Spooner among the foremost citizens of San Luis Obispo County, have been correspondingly exemplified in a worthy and enviable ancestry, variously represented among the history-makers of the world. He was born in Lorain, O., September 9, 1851, a son of Alden Bradford Spooner, Sr., who was a native of Maine, having been born at Bangor on June 6, 1824.

The elder Spooner attended school but a short time, and at the age of fourteen joined the U. S. Navy and sailed around the globe in the old ship "Constitution," taking three and one half years to make the trip. Upon his return to the home port, he left the salt water and sailed the Great Lakes; and while engaged there, on July 11, 1848, he was united in marriage with Roxanna Gilmore, who was born in the town of Lorain, November 29, 1831. She came from a distinguished family. Her oldest brother, Gen. Quincy A. Gilmore, for example, a teacher at West Point, published a book on cement that is today a standard work. He also constructed the first rifled cannon invented, called the "Swamp Angel," which could carry a shell seven miles. Mrs. Spooner died December 19, 1898, at an advanced age, and was mourned by her family and a wide circle of friends who esteemed her for her fine character and her kindly acts.

After his marriage, Mr. Spooner left the sea and started business for himself at rigging up vessels. He also began, at Lorain, Ohio, to study for the ministry of the Methodist Church. After his ordination he came West and landed in San Francisco, where he remained but a short time, after which he was sent to Crescent City, Del Norte county, where he preached the Gospel for a time. From there he went to Portland, Oregon, and thence to Oregon City, once more returning to Crescent City in California. His next charge was at Rohnerville, Humboldt county. From there he came south to Chico, Butte county, and one year later, on account of the ill health of his youngest daughter, who was suffering with malaria, he came to San Luis Obispo County. He was the first preacher sent by the Methodist Conference to preach in this county, and held services in Cambria and in Arroyo Grande

for two years. He had pre-empted land on Toro creek, and here he began development to make a home for his family. During the rest of his life he was a local preacher.

He also assisted in piloting vessels into Morro Bay, and it was while he was thus engaged that he lost his life. He had gone out to meet a vessel, the "Mary Taylor," when a big swell upset the small boat he was in and he was drowned, February 5, 1877. His death was a severe loss to the family and to the county, where he had made his influence felt for the advancement of general conditions. He was a charter member of Chorro Lodge, No. 168, I. O. O. F., which he assisted in organizing. He and his wife had seven children born to them, five of whom are now living. The oldest daughter, Roxanna, died at the age of five years in Ohio; Alden B., Jr., of this review, was the next in order of birth; Nettie is the wife of James Jordan; David R. lives in San Jose; Elizabeth married Capt. John Ross of San Francisco; Cornelius G. is of Morro; and Edmund L. died July 17, 1908, leaving three children. From the date of his arrival in California in 1858 until the time of his death in 1877, Reverend Spooner was one of the best-known citizens of the coast section. He was unselfish in his zeal to help mankind and counted no journey too long to visit and comfort the afflicted.

Alden B. Spooner, Jr., a worthy son of his father, was brought to California by his parents when a lad of seven, and he attended the public schools in the various places where the family lived during the years his father preached the Gospel under direction of the Conference. In 1868 he accompanied them to San Luis Obispo County and attended the first public school held in the county, in a log house built on San Simeon creek. At the age of nineteen, his school days over, he rented his father's ranch on Toro creek and for the following two years was engaged in farming.

From the ranch, he went to San Francisco, where he hired out to A. H. Rockwell, the celebrated horse trainer of New York, and traveled over the state with him, after which he was engaged with Rockwell & Hulbert to go to Portland, Oregon. He boarded the steamer "Pacific," but could not agree on the salary he was to receive, and went ashore. It seemed that some kind Providence had intervened to save the young man, for on the trip the steamer was sunk with all on board. Mr. Spooner went into the livery business in San Francisco on Mission street, near the Palace Hotel, remained a short time, and then sold out and came back to San Luis Obispo County and took up farming near Morro, which he followed for several years with success. While he was living in that section he served six years as road master, his term expiring in 1892.

It was at that date that he leased sixty-five hundred acres of the Pecho ranch, facing the ocean, and engaged in dairying and raising stock. So successful was he that in 1902 he was able to buy the land; and he has added on from time to time until he now owns eight thousand acres, with six miles of ocean frontage, which he operates with the aid of his three sons under the name of the Pecho Ranch and Stock Co., an incorporation with himself as president, Alden B., Jr., vice-president, and Quincy G., secretary. For the past twenty-five years Mr. Spooner has been raising, buying, selling and dealing in stock, running about five hundred head of cattle and large numbers of hogs. He began on a small scale, about fifteen years ago, to breed registered Holsteins, and now has some of the finest cattle to be seen in the county. Where he has led, others have followed, and the

grade of stock has been improving for years. He has been a horse fancier and has raised some fine animals during the past years. The dairy house on the ranch is modern in equipment, the machinery is operated by steam power, and the most sanitary methods are in use. The building is of concrete and the dairy includes about fifty high-grade Holstein cows. The two silos on the place have demonstrated their worth and have a capacity of one hundred eighty tons each. The ranch is nicely located in a cove where it is protected from the winds off the ocean; and buildings and surroundings are kept in fine shape.

Since becoming a permanent resident of San Luis Obispo County, Mr. Spooner has entered into the spirit of progress of the western country, has witnessed the development of the Pacific Coast country from Portland to San Diego, and has often had a part in the upward trend. He is a Republican in politics, a friend of education and a believer in a high standard of schools, and served as trustee of Morro district and as clerk of the board for years. He is a charter member of Cayucos Lodge, I. O. O. F., and has passed all the chairs.

Mr. Spooner was united in marriage, April 18, 1881, with Miss Mary Florence White, a native daughter; and they became parents of three sons: Quincy Gilmore, Carleton Ross, and Alden Bradford, Jr. Mrs. Spooner died in February, 1898, mourned by all who knew her. Mr. Spooner is a man of broad education, is an intelligent traveler, and is familiar with the state history, in which he is much interested. He has been a liberal supporter of all movements for the benefit of the people and state, and is known as a man whose word is as good as his bond.

**FRED WICKENDEN.**—One of the oldest men now living in the Santa Maria valley, both in point of years and in length of residence in this section of the state, is Fred Wickenden of Foxen cañon in the vicinity of Los Alamos. He was born at Portsmouth, England, November 18, 1825, and was reared at Chichester, where he received his schooling, after which he was offered a position as a draughtsman to assist in building the first South American railway running from Lima to Callao, Peru. He was also offered a position as secretary to one of the captains of a sailing vessel that was going on an exploring expedition with Sir John Franklin—which expedition later came to grief when the vessels were wrecked. After considering both propositions, Mr. Wickenden decided that he did not have the qualifications to hold the latter position, and so went to Peru. He left England, March 17, 1850, arrived at Gorgona in due time, then took a canoe up the Chagres river as far as they could go and from there rode on the back of a native to Panama. On reaching his destination he entered into the work with zest, and was made manager with five hundred men under him. For a time he employed an interpreter, but after a few months he could speak Spanish as well as the natives, and thereafter dispensed with his services.

When, at the end of two years, the road was completed, Mr. Wickenden left Peru for California, induced to make the trip on account of the gold excitement that had spread to all parts of the world; and he arrived in this state in 1852.

On his arrival in San Francisco, he went at once to the mines along the Yuba river, but stayed only a short time, as the heavy rains had caused



floods that washed out the sluice boxes, thereby rendering mining impossible. He therefore found himself once more in San Francisco, and some time later he came down to San Luis Obispo County, where he engaged in the sheep business.

It was while at that place that he became acquainted with William Foxen, also an Englishman, who had settled in Santa Barbara county at an early date and was engaged in raising stock, and after whom Foxen canon was named. Mr. Wickenden became interested in one of Mr. Foxen's daughters, Ramona, and on July 16, 1860, they were married, at the old mission at San Luis Obispo. It was her father, known after he had embraced the Catholic religion as William Domingo, who came to California as master of a sailing vessel, and left his ship when he saw opportunities for trading with the natives. Building a sailing boat known as the "Goleta," at a place that now bears that name in Santa Barbara county, he did a coastwise business from San Diego to San Francisco, buying and exchanging goods for hides and tallow, which were stored until the ships from across the ocean called for them. Soon after his arrival, he married Señorita Eduarda Osuna, whose grandmother came from the city of that name in Spain. Mr. Foxen established a general merchandise store on the rancho he had come to own, consisting of some eight thousand acres. He began the stock business, and in time his herds numbered thousands, and he became a wealthy man for his day. At the time of his death he left each of his children over eight hundred acres of land as their share of the estate. More complete mention of him is made in the sketch of T. F. Foxen on another page of this work.

In 1862 Fred Wickenden and his wife became residents of Santa Barbara county; and since that time he has carried on an extensive stock-raising business with good financial success. Residing in Foxen cañon all these years, he has grown to be one of the best-known men in this part of the state. To Mr. and Mrs. Wickenden nine children were born. W. F. Wickenden, who died in 1915 at the age of fifty-four, was the oldest. He was engaged in the grocery business in San Luis Obispo, until his retirement to private life. He married Maggie Sauer, and with her six children she survives him at San Luis Obispo. The second son, James D., died in 1899, aged thirty-five. Albert P. married Emma Castro, and has four children. He is now president of the Wickenden Corporation, and resides in Los Alamos. Sarah married John H. Conway, a realty dealer of San Francisco and Santa Maria. They have four children and dwell in San Francisco. Ernest Wickenden is next in order of birth, and lives on part of the Wickenden ranch with his wife, formerly Josie Carteri, and their two children. Ida married P. A. H. Arata of San Luis Obispo, and died in 1899, leaving two children. Robert A. is connected with the C. H. Reed Company of San Luis Obispo. He married Ida Merritt of Santa Maria. Nellie is the wife of Howard Dill, who is connected with a large printing establishment in San Francisco, and she is the mother of six children. The ninth, and youngest, is John R., superintendent of the ranch, where he resides with his wife, formerly Flora Kriegl, and their two children.

Fred Wickenden is now (1917) in his ninety-second year and is seemingly hale and hearty, and as active physically and mentally as many men of sixty and less. He and his good wife, now in her seventy-eighth year, live in peace and contentment at their old home place, honored and re-

spected by all who know them. Mr. Wickenden was one of the prime movers in organizing the Wickenden Corporation, that now owns some five thousand acres of land devoted to the stock business, and has from four hundred to six hundred head of stock all the time. One thousand acres are under the plow, and large crops of beans, hay and grain each year make up much of the harvest.

In 1917 the corporation sold to the Associated Oil Company the oil rights on twenty-three hundred seventy-five acres tributary to the Los Alamos valley, and there is now one producing well and others in contemplation. Half the purchase price was paid in cash, and the balance is payable when oil is struck in such quantities as will warrant the transformation of the property into an immense oil field. The officers of the Wickenden Corporation are Albert P., president; Robert A., secretary and treasurer; Fred, vice-president; John R., superintendent. The directors are Albert P., Robert A., John R., Fred, the father, and Ramona, the mother.

**MR. AND MRS. JOHN E. CHILDS.** Though a considerable period has elapsed since the death of John E. Childs, he is not forgotten by those with whom the last years of his busy life were passed. Of English ancestry, he was born either on the plantation outside of Rockville, Montgomery county, Md., or in the mountains of Allegany county. His father was Enos Childs, born in England, April 7, 1794, and a captain in the navy in the War of 1812. He married Eleanor Virginia Goss in Charleston, S. C., December 14, 1819. She was born on July 6, 1804, a daughter of Captain Goss, a native of Vermont, and Jane van Ryerson, a native of New Jersey, who ran away from home, and was married in New York. This so enraged her father that he disinherited her, cutting her off with one shilling. The father of Enos Childs was William Childs. He was married in 1781 and died in August, 1818; and his wife died the following year in the month of May. William Childs lived on a plantation near Rockville, one hundred twenty acres of which later became the property of his son Enos. Enos Childs died in Baltimore, November 23, 1852. Eleanor, his wife, died in 1865, in Georgetown, D. C.

The progenitor of the name in the United States was Henry Child, as the name was then spelled. He and his wife, Jamima, lived at Portland Manor, on property known as Wickham and Pottenger's discovery, part of which was willed to their son William Childs. There Henry died, December 12, 1767, and his wife in 1784, in Anne Arundel county, Maryland. The maternal ancestors of John E. Childs were of German and Holland Dutch extraction. Enos Childs was a large planter in Maryland and at one time was the owner of over five hundred slaves. Each of his children had a personal servant.

John E. Childs was educated in Baltimore, came across the plains in 1850, when a young man, with Colonel Hollister and twenty men, and on his arrival here located near San Jose, and worked in the New Almaden quicksilver mines, later becoming superintendent. In 1862 he was sent to San Luis Obispo county by the owners of the Josephine mine, Barron and Bell, to take charge of that mine, and he carried on operations until they closed down three years later. He then engaged in farming near Chorro for a time, and also, in partnership with Samuel Pollard, operated a flouring mill there, this being one of the first mills in the county. He was active in politics and served one

term as county tax collector. When John E. Childs left Maryland, he deeded to his mother his share of the property there, so she would not be denied the comforts of life while she lived.

On October 18, 1864, occurred the marriage of John E. Childs with Miss Refugio Esquer, who was born in Monterey, January 29, 1844, a daughter of Enos Esquer, a representative of the old Spanish régime in California, who served as judge under both Mexican and American rule. Her mother, Josefa Pico, was a daughter of Presentacion (Ruiz) Pico, and granddaughter of Maria Ignacio Lugo, who married Jose Ruiz. She was also a niece of Pio Pico, the last governor of California under Mexican rule, and an aunt of Gen. M. J. Vallejo. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Childs were born these children: Mrs. Richard Leland, Harry P., John W., Charlotta B. and Mrs. E. R. Frazier, all of San Luis Obispo. During his lifetime Mr. Childs was very public-spirited and supported all worthy projects. His widow, a talented lady, has her residence in San Luis Obispo.

**CHARLES O. KING.**—From the time when he settled in San Luis Obispo County, in 1877, until his death, which occurred February 4, 1916, Mr. King was associated with the development and progress of the coast country. He was born in Brooklyn, N. Y., February 5, 1847, a son of Charles M. and Frances (Briggs) King. The father came to California in 1860, via the Isthmus of Panama, and engaged in mining at Placerville and later in Alpine county.

Charles O. King lived in Placerville, Eldorado county, Cal., until he was twenty years of age. Mining was the leading industry of that section, and after leaving school he took up that enterprise, working in the mines in Virginia City, Nev., and Alpine county with varied success until 1877, when he came to San Luis Obispo County. He found employment in the onyx mines here, working for George Mock for a number of years. He began his public-service career as chief office deputy under A. M. Hardie, county assessor, filling that position for seven years, after which he became manager for four years of the San Luis Abstract & Title Bureau. In 1892 he was elected county assessor and served continuously for twelve years. In 1910, he moved to Palo Alto and the following year was appointed corporation expert in the office of the late L. A. Spitzer, who was assessor of Santa Clara county. He was re-appointed by C. Y. Pitman, who succeeded Mr. Spitzer, and held the position until his death, in 1916. His thorough knowledge of the building and loan business made Mr. King an invaluable member of the committee on rehabilitation of the Palo Alto Building and Loan Association. He was considered to be the best-posted man on the land laws in the state, was an expert on taxation and land values, and well known all over California. He was an Odd Fellow from the age of twenty-one, a member of the Foresters and formerly of the Elks.

In 1873 Mr. King was united in marriage with Mrs. Emma A. (Smith) McFarlin. Her father, Edwin H. Smith, a native of Massachusetts, crossed the plains with ox teams in 1850, mined for a time and then returned to the East; and with his wife and four children he came back to California, across the plains, in 1852, settling in Placerville, where he mined. Then he came to San Luis Obispo county and engaged in farming. He was best known in this county through his association with the Methodist Church, and was a general community man.

To Mr. and Mrs. King were born several children: Harlan C. is a contractor in Palo Alto; Mabel L. is a teacher in Berkeley; Preston Wallace is a civil engineer in San Francisco; and Alfred T. is an orchardist in Santa Clara county. By her first marriage with Mr. McFarlin, Mrs. King had a daughter, Mrs. Minnie J., wife of H. M. Root of San Luis Obispo. The following are the grandchildren: Guy, Earl and Lenore, children of Harlan C.; John Bennett, son of Preston W.; and Mrs. Emma C. Logwood, and Edna L., daughters of Mrs. Minnie J. Root.

No name in San Luis Obispo and environs commanded more hearty respect than the name of Charles O. King, whose honesty and square dealing were widely known and appreciated; and his loss was more keenly felt in San Luis Obispo than in any other place, for it was here that he had endeared himself to his constituents and friends, who were legion.

**JERRY DONOVAN.**—No small place in the story of our country's progress must be accorded to the history of the Irish in America, to which the life story of Jerry Donovan, the extensive landowner near Santa Maria, would prove an important contribution. He first saw the light of day at Skibbereen, County Cork, but is such an early settler of the Santa Maria Valley that he might well be called a California pioneer. When about nineteen years of age he came to America, and soon after reached Watsonville, where he worked by the month on a farm, milking cows. He next started for himself in the dairy business, in a small way, his idea being to get hold of some land; and this led him to invest in a hundred eighty acres, which he still owns and which he at once devoted to the purposes of a dairy farm.

As early as 1875 he came to Guadalupe, and there he bought six hundred acres of the Guadalupe rancho, paying twenty dollars an acre. Some of this acreage is lowland and some lies on the mesa. This property is still in the possession of Mr. Donovan. He next purchased a ranch of three hundred acres of mesa land at Nipomo, and this was followed by the acquisition of five hundred acres at Guadalupe, also of the Guadalupe rancho, all of it first-class bean land. Another investment was three hundred twenty acres, one mile to the northwest of Santa Maria—a town called Central City, when Mr. Donovan first came there; and although he was now carrying considerable land for a small investor, he nevertheless greatly improved his last purchase. He keeps all his lands rented out, and has been more than successful in the dairy business.

While at Watsonville, and when about forty-one, he married Miss Mary McCarthy, by whom he had seven children, all strong, healthy and bright. Their names are: Agnes, Gertie, Cornelius, Mary, Leo, Gerald and Margaret. Each has been properly trained in the Catholic faith. He himself enjoyed but few educational advantages; but he has afforded his children high school and college training.

For a man of his years, Mr. Donovan is still active and powerful. He is keenly alive to the politics of the day, and especially to all that upholds Democratic standards. Always interested in the cause of education, he served for years as a member of the school board of Santa Maria, of which Mrs. Donovan is now a member.

**ANTONIO J. SOUZA.**—Enjoying the entire confidence of his fellow Portuguese-Americans, among whom he is regarded as a successful leader, capable of guiding others to success, and both meriting and receiving the esteem and good-will of Californians generally, A. J. Souza occupies an enviable position among the developers of the Santa Maria valley. Born at Flores, in the delightful Azores, on June 10, 1862, the son of Manuel J. Souza, who reached his seventy-second year, and Mary (Urcela) Souza, who died when he was five years old—both father and mother having come originally from Portugal—young Souza was one of eight children, four of whom are living. He attended the public school at Flores, where he was brought up. There he laid the foundation, in good health and industrious habits, for his later career, in which he has advanced to such a prominent and influential place in the community.

When seventeen years old he came to the United States and to California, and almost from the first day when he worked as a farm hand in or near Santa Maria, he showed commendable progress. After seven or eight years he had saved enough money to buy an attractive ranch of some two hundred seventy acres, and before long he was the owner of three hundred fifty acres farmed with the most up-to-date and labor-saving devices. Two hundred thirty-five acres are under cultivation; one hundred seventy acres are in beans; seventy in hay, corn, and produce; and the balance is pasture. Practicing economy and working steadily, Mr. Souza in time took a very respectable place among his competitors, and is now living retired in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest, surrounded by his children and grandchildren, in all of whom he is greatly interested.

On November 29, 1888, the marriage of Antonio J. Souza and Miss Maria Concicao, a native of the Azores and a devout member of the Catholic Church, was solemnized, and of this happy union nine children have been born. Mary is the wife of Frank L. Novo, a blacksmith in Santa Maria, and is the mother of a son, Angelo; Joseph E. married Pearl Reel, and with their two children, Harriet and Albert, they live on part of the Souza home ranch, as does also Manuel E., who married Edith Tracy; Annie became the wife of George Sargenti, a promising young rancher of the valley, and has a daughter, Amy; two daughters are Isabella and Ida; Anton and Angelo are at home; and Ruth, the youngest child, is deceased.

As might be expected of one who has been interested in every movement for the good of the community, Mr. Souza is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the Masons, Guadalupe Lodge No. 237, Santa Maria Chapter, R. A. M., and the Eastern Star Chapter; the Odd Fellows and Rebekahs of Santa Maria; the Knights of Pythias and the Portuguese Lodge, I. D. E. S., of which he has served as master and secretary. Mrs. Souza is a prominent member of the Eastern Star and the Rebekahs. Progressive in his attitude toward public affairs, Mr. Souza has been active, as a Republican, in local politics. He served for fifteen years as a member and as secretary of the school board in his district, until he refused to accept the position any longer. He has been a resident on the ranch where he now lives for over twenty-two years, and has watched with interest the rapid growth of the county, and assisted many less fortunate than himself to get a start in life. He is large-hearted, jovial in manner and an interesting conversationalist, and has a large circle of friends throughout this section of the state.





Henry Holt

**HENRY HOLT.**—The interest which attaches to the life story of California pioneers is a visible expression of the gratitude which all men feel towards the forerunners of civilization in the Far West. The life history of Henry Holt is one of unusual interest; it possesses, in fact, that fascination which attaches to all lives that present the spectacle of small beginnings and large achievements, and of success wrested from adverse circumstances. By birth and descent a German, he has yet spent so many years in the West that he is a typical Westerner, a grand representative of the pioneers of California. Henry Holt was born in Hanover, October 24, 1833, was educated in the common schools of his native land, and in 1852 came to the United States. Arriving at New Orleans, he traveled to Cincinnati, O., and thence to New York, where he went to work on a pilot boat in the harbor. Soon after, he began a seafaring life, sailing to Holland, where he learned navigation, and then to the East Indies, finally coming again to New York and in 1858 around the Horn to San Francisco.

His object in coming to California was to seek his fortune in the mines, and immediately on his arrival he went to Oroville and Marysville, where he engaged in mining; but not meeting with the success he anticipated, he went back to San Francisco and again became a sailor, sailing to the ports of China, the East Indies, Boston and Nova Scotia, and again coming around Cape Horn to California. In San Francisco he went to work in a livery stable, and then went to Point Reyes and became a cheese-maker on a dairy ranch. Once more in San Francisco, Mr. Holt was employed in road-building for a time, then journeyed to Monterey county, and soon after arrived in San Luis Obispo County. Through his knowledge of cheese-making he secured a position with Steele Bros. as a cheese-maker on their Corral de Piedra ranch near San Luis Obispo, did his work well, and gave good satisfaction. Mr. Holt had a thorough knowledge of the dairy business and, realizing that money could be made by proper management, bought fifty cows, drove them to Guadalupe, leased land and started a dairy of his own. Later he increased his interests by leasing land on the Huasna and carrying on a dairy on shares with Mr. Porter, the owner of the land.

In 1877 came the dry year, and his cattle suffered and began to die; so he drove the balance across the mountains into Kern county. He leased three ranches near Bakersfield and held his cattle there for a time, and in that way saved about half of them. That fall he sold two hundred twenty-two and three-year-old steers for five dollars a head in San Francisco, but later got twelve dollars a head in Bakersfield. He once more returned to the Huasna, practically "broke," remained for a couple of years, and then located on the Todos Santos in Santa Barbara county, where he was dairying and raising cattle and hogs for the following six years, having about fifteen hundred head of the former and about two thousand of the latter, and making about \$75,000 through his venture. One sale of stock alone netted him \$20,000. From almost every venture in which Mr. Holt has been engaged he has netted good returns, and he has become an authority on live stock.

In Guadalupe he has erected three brick residences, improving the property at a cost of \$10,000, so that it will bring him an income. He also owns two business houses in Santa Maria. He believes in improving the properties in which he is interested, and in keeping them in repair. He now owns seven hundred acres near Guadalupe, one hundred fifty-five acres on his farm



place at Los Alamos, twenty-three hundred sixteen acres in Foxen Cañon, three hundred twenty acres in Long Cañon, and seven hundred twenty-five acres at Santa Rita, near Lompoc, all of which property is leased to tenants and from which Mr. Holt derives a handsome income.

He has retired from active work, although he still superintends the large interests he controls, and keeps himself heartily in accord with every movement that has for its object the upbuilding of the state. He has made friends wherever he has done business, for he believes in square dealing at all times; and he is numbered among the most progressive and prosperous citizens of Santa Barbara county. He is reliable and upright, and his integrity never has been questioned. He tries to live by the Golden Rule, and it is the consensus of opinion that his word is as good as his bond. He is generous and kind-hearted, a gentleman of the old school who dispenses his charities in an unostentatious manner.

**MICHAEL J. MEHERIN.**—Ireland has contributed her quota of sons and daughters to help build up the United States, and none of those who have become citizens of this country are more loyal than M. J. Meherin, pioneer of San Luis Obispo County by reason of residence, and also by the ties of marriage that bind him to the family of that prominent pioneer, John M. Price, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. Meherin was born in Ireland on December 15, 1842, and was reared on the farm owned by his father, who was engaged in stock-raising in his native land. With four brothers, Michael came to the United States, having California as his objective point. He came by way of Panama and arrived at Cave Landing, in San Luis Obispo County, in 1868. He found work for five months on the dairy ranch of P. O'Connor; and later, for six years, with his brother, Dennis Meherin, he was engaged in sheep-raising. Then, with the same partner, he opened a store, the second one at Arroyo Grande, and for eight years carried on a general merchandise business, selling out at the end of that time. In 1881, he and his brother built a wharf at Pismo costing \$16,000, and they also had the steamer "Santa Maria," built in San Francisco in 1883, at a cost of \$40,000, which was operated in the coast trade for a time. They also owned the lumber yard at Pismo, managing that in connection with the wharf and steamer. Still later, in 1884, they built a wharf at Lompoc, costing \$23,000. Afterwards, Mr. Meherin farmed on one hundred five acres of land, near Pismo, owned by his wife, where he has lived for the past twenty-five years.

He was united in marriage with Mary Ann Price, a daughter of John M. Price, and a native of California; and they have had four children to bless their home: A daughter, Mrs. Mary Manderscheld; another daughter, Mrs. Ann Ramona Bolton; Mark E., the only son; and a third daughter, Andrea Margaret.

Mr. Meherin has seen many changes take place in this county, and well remembers the tales told by those earlier settlers who were here when there were but few white men and the country was infested by Indians and criminals, and by wild animals of all kinds. He himself has had many thrilling adventures, and recounts many experiences that were encountered by the pioneer builders of this commonwealth who have laid the foundation for future generations.

**JOHN M. PRICE.**—The life history of John M. Price is one of unusual interest. Full of incidents, stirring and adventurous, it possesses that fascination which attaches to all lives presenting the spectacle of small beginnings and large achievements, and a success wrested from adverse circumstances. A native of England, born in the old seaport town of Bristol, September 29, 1810, he was early taught the lessons of thrift and right living. His education was limited, for at the age of fifteen he went to sea on a whaler in the Southern ocean. After a three years' cruise on the "Cadmus," at the age of eighteen, he landed on the coast of California in the barque "Kent," a whaler commanded by Captain Lawton. Mr. Price and a companion named Black left the ship at Manzanillo, a Mexican port, where they had been treated with the utmost consideration and courtesy by the natives, who wanted them to remain. In order to get away, they boarded another whaler and were landed at Monterey, where they again deserted the ship; and with the aid of friendly Indians, they made their way into the timber in Monterey County. They cut timber with a whipsaw, and followed lumbering for a time; and afterwards they worked as vaqueros about the Castroville section, before there was any place of that name.

In 1836 Mr. Price came to San Luis Obispo County, where he worked for W. G. Dana on the Nipomo ranch. Later he was employed on the Huasna ranch for Isaac Sparks, and in 1846 he was living in an old log cabin on a ranch about twenty miles from what is now Arroyo Grande. He was surprised, one day, by the appearance of John C. Fremont and his troopers, who wanted him and his men—the Indians who were working for him—to surrender. He went as far as Santa Barbara and later returned to his place of abode. When gold was discovered Mr. Price and F. Z. Branch went to the mines and were engaged in mining for a time, meeting with good success, but afterwards came back to San Luis Obispo County.

Mr. Price worked on the Pismo ranch with Mr. Sparks, and later he purchased seven thousand acres of land near the beach and engaged in raising cattle, sheep and horses on a large scale, meeting with prosperity for almost fifty years.

He was one of the best-known men in the county. He served as alcalde under Mexican rule, and later was justice of the peace, county judge, and supervisor of the county. Under the alcalde there was no defined justice, the official meting out justice as he saw fit and as it suited his humor; needless to say, Mr. Price was just in all his decisions, and held the respect of all. During the pioneer days in the county there were but few white men, and the country was overrun with Indians and bandits. Those were the days when ranching tried men's mettle; they had to be on the watch continually to keep the cattle and horse thieves from running off their stock, and many were the trials endured by Mr. Price.

In 1844, Mr. Price was united in marriage with Miss Dona Andrea Carlon, a native of California, born in Santa Barbara County. They became the parents of fifteen children, eleven of whom are living: Mrs. M. Walker, Mrs. Victoria Thompson, John S., Mrs. Ellen Bushnell, George, Mrs. Carlotta Vidal, Mrs. Mary Meherin, Sister Angelica Price, William B., Mrs. William Hamilton, and Michael. Two sons and two daughters are deceased. Mr. Price lived at his home in Pismo for many years, and died there June 4, 1902, at the age of ninety-two years.

**MAT. IVERSEN.**—It is an old saying, and one with almost kindergarten simplicity, that if you do not succeed at first, you should try again; and how well Mat. Iversen, the progressive secretary of the Farmers' Alliance Business Association and the advocate of good roads, has applied the motto will be seen in his winning out for supervisor after he had been defeated in a candidacy for that honorable office. In fresh, green Ballum, Schleswig, Denmark, Mat. was born, on December 10, 1860, his father being none other than the esteemed pioneer, Hans Iversen, elsewhere described in this book. He was reared at Ballum, and was educated in the public schools; but from his tenth year he was compelled to divide his time between the task of getting a book education and the equally formidable job of working on a farm. As a very young boy, indeed, he shouldered considerable responsibility, one commission being to drive his father's cattle all the way to the coast.

When he reached his seventeenth year a crisis arose in Mat.'s affairs, but he met it with a brave heart, and with much of the foresight which has characterized his operations ever since. About that time his native country came under the rule of Germany; and the Iversens objecting to what they looked upon as little short of military oppression, Mat. concluded to come to the United States. The first of April, therefore, in the year 1878, we find the lad as far west as Monmouth, Ill.; and there he tarried for half a year working for the first time on an American farm. His next stage on the journey toward his western goal was Omaha, where he secured work with the Union Pacific Railroad, and for a while at tilling the soil; but in 1882 he had reached San Francisco and had taken up an altogether new occupation, as a conductor on the Third and Montgomery street car line, which at that time was propelled by horse-power. It was not a very inviting occupation, but it gave Mat. a considerable boost, and, for the time being, such assistance was all that was desired by the youth, who was fleeing from Old World autocracy.

In March, 1883, Mat. Iversen came to San Luis Obispo County, and homesteaded in the Union district, harvesting his first crop the following year. At that time he had to haul all the water that was needed in barrels for a distance of three or four miles; and taking some of this, he mixed it with the clay about him and made adobe bricks, which were dried in the sun. With these he built two houses, the one for his father and the other for himself; and having somewhat comfortably fixed himself up, he set to work in dead earnest to see what he could get from the soil. In 1886, a well-rig came in and sunk wells in the neighborhood, and as soon as he was able to make arrangements, Mat., too, had a four-inch bore running to the depth of three hundred seventy-two feet. On a still larger scale he engaged in grain-raising, buying a header and all the other equipment, and in the same year began to haul his wheat, first to San Luis Obispo, then to San Miguel, and afterwards to Paso Robles.

On account, however, of the methods employed by the S. P. M. Co. of Paso Robles, who at that time had no opposition and seemed to discourage rather than help the ranch folks, some of the farmers, in 1891, organized the Farmers' Alliance Business Association, which was incorporated with Mat. as secretary; and in that influential capacity our friend has served ever since. In the beginning they used part of a large warehouse built in Paso Robles, and this has been so enlarged and added to that today



*Mat. Iversen*



it boasts of a very pretentious volume of business, in 1916 doing an aggregate business of \$200,000. But Mat. has not only been secretary; he has been a director in the Association, as also in the Paso Robles Mercantile Co., his up-to-date tendencies having been everywhere quickly recognized, and this recognition has served as an encouragement to him in the introduction of the most modern appliances and the most efficient means for the transaction of the day's business.

Besides participating in this venture of the Farmers' Alliance and purchasing lands, Mat. has also leased certain tracts and engaged in grain-raising on a large scale elsewhere, managing these holdings until lately, when he sold most of his lands, retaining only the two-hundred-eighty-acre ranch upon which he lives. His decision to do this was made with no little regret, since he is fond of agriculture; but he found the operation of a thousand or more acres a little too strenuous, and decided to quit in order to devote his surplus time and energy to the care of his own home place.

Mr. Iversen has been twice married. By his first marriage he was joined to Miss Jensine Christensen, a native of Schleswig, Germany, who died in the Union district. His second wife was Mrs. Alma Hager, a native of Sweden. By her first marriage she had had one son, George Hager, whom Mr. Iversen adopted. The young man is a graduate of the Paso Robles High School, and is now attending the College of Agriculture in the University of California, as a member of the class of 1917.

Mr. Iversen took a very active part in the organization of the San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau, and is a member of the Union Center. In 1917 he was elected a delegate to the Farm Bureau Conference held at the College of Agriculture, University of California; and with other delegates he traveled more than a thousand miles through fourteen different counties, to study, see and report what farm bureaus and farm advisors can accomplish. A trustee of the Union school district for fifteen years, Mr. Iversen has always responded to the calls for public service. In one instance, however, he did so with a slight embarrassment for his pains. This was in 1912, when he consented to become a candidate for supervisor, and lost out by only five votes. Four years later he was again a candidate—of the First Supervisorial District—and at the primary election he received a majority over his two opponents. No election result could have been more satisfactory to his constituents; for having come to this district when there were no well-built thoroughfares, and no fences to separate one property from another, and when many of the conveniences of life, including the means of intercommunication, were lacking, Supervisor Iversen is well known to favor the construction of good roads, and in his hands that most important feature of California's development may well be regarded as absolutely safe.

**THOMAS F. ABBEY.**—Among the old-time families of Oak Flat, San Luis Obispo County, mention may be made of the Abbey family, whose head, on their arrival here, was Thomas F. Abbey. He was a native of Driffield, England, who married Eleanor Nicholson, also a native of that place. He was a miller by trade, and had the management of a large mill in England until March, 1874, when he came to America, bringing with him his wife and four children and settling in Sullivan, Ind., where for six years he engaged in farming. Going then to Kansas City, he was head miller in a large flouring mill; and there he remained until he came to California, in July, 1886. Locat-

County. He homesteaded sixty-eight acres of land, two miles from Paso Robles, improved it and farmed until his death. His wife also died in this locality. All four of the children came to California. These are Thomas Francis, employed by the Globe Mills in San Francisco; Eleanor, Mrs. John Jardine of Estrella Plains; Mary E., Mrs. John F. Botts of Oak Flat; and Elizabeth M., who was born at Stockton-on-Tees, England, came with her parents to America, and accompanied them in their removals from place to place, receiving her education in the public schools of Kansas City and Oak Flat, California. On September 23, 1900, at Morgan Hill, she married William Jardine, a native of Kentucky, who died in March, 1912. She is the mother of four children, Eleanor, William, John and Grace. She owns the old Abbey ranch, where she is engaged in general farming and horticulture, successfully raising fruits and nuts; and while enjoying repute as a successful woman, she takes an active interest in all that tends to build up the county.

**ALVA PAUL.**—It is possible that there is no better-known man throughout the greater part of San Luis Obispo County than Alva Paul, now living retired in San Luis Obispo after many years of activity in ranching and running a threshing outfit, and after serving in some official capacity or other for several years. He was born in Croydon, Sullivan county, N. H., October 26, 1856. As his father died when he was quite young, he had to make his own way in the world from the early age of nine.

He left his home county when he was but fifteen, with only twenty-five cents in his pocket, went to Iowa and for six months worked on a farm near Cedar Rapids; then, in 1872, he came to California and, locating in San Luis Obispo, found work in the harness shop owned by his uncle, S. B. Call. Later he was in the employ of John Slack, on the Los Osos. Meanwhile, he was learning how to get on. He rented land of H. J. Beck, and from 1876 until 1879 farmed on his own account. He made several moves during the next few years, farming rented land, and in 1880 we find him on a ranch of five hundred fifty acres owned by S. P. Stowe at Chorro. On this ranch he remained for six years, and he was the first man to turn a furrow in that virgin soil.

He next went to Morro, bought three hundred fifty acres of land, and began to improve it; and for the next twenty-three years he was engaged in general farm work and in running a threshing outfit. Through the latter enterprise he became well known, for he carried it on successfully for many years, and was brought in touch with the leading men of the county. His was the best machine in the county; and with his partner, A. F. Bagley, he prospered accordingly. He retired from business and built a comfortable home in Morro, where he lived until September 22, 1911. Then he came to San Luis Obispo, and has since resided here, in the quiet enjoyment of a well-earned rest. He helped to tear down the old stone wall through which was hauled the first load of lumber that came to San Luis Obispo for the first frame building on the east side of the creek.

On April 20, 1880, occurred the marriage of Alva Paul with Miss Ella Bagley, who was born and raised in Missouri, and came to California with her parents in 1877. Her father, Mason Bagley, died soon after in San Jose. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Paul are: Stephen A., who was in the employ of the Southern California Edison Co., and is now deceased; George W.; Archie

B., who is secretary of the Corralitos Apple Growers' Association at Watsonville; Ray A., a rancher of Lemoore, Kings county; and Nedom A.

While actively engaged in the numerous enterprises that have given Mr. Paul the necessary means to live retired from all business pursuits, he was always interested in every movement that was promoted for the upbuilding of the county, and furthered those movements as his means would permit. He is a self-made man in every sense of the word, and has a host of friends throughout the county. He has seen many changes, as from stock to grain, and from grain to dairying and beans, when it was predicted that agricultural products could not possibly be grown in the country. He also recalls the road conditions in early days, when he got stuck between San Luis and Morro with six horses and an empty wagon, with but two sacks of flour. In contrast to such trying experiences, Mr. and Mrs. Paul last year traveled over seven thousand miles in a Ford, and have seen a great deal of the country throughout California.

Mr. Paul is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Encampment and the Rebekahs. He has passed all the chairs of the lodge, has served as district deputy three terms, and has been prominently identified with the order. He served as deputy sheriff in the Morro district for a number of years while residing there, and was trustee of the Morro school for several terms.

**SWAN PETERSON.**—Noteworthy among the citizens of California who came from the thrifty little country of Sweden, is Swan Peterson. He was born, August 24, 1866, in Alvestad, Kroneborslan, Sweden, was brought up on the home farm, and attended the public schools. Remaining at home and helping his parents until April, 1890, he then came to the United States and located in Denver, Colorado, where he obtained employment at the Grant smelter, working there until 1894. Then he came to California, where his brother, John A. Peterson, was living, and finally settled at Templeton, engaging in farm work.

In 1896, at Templeton, Mr. Peterson was united in marriage with Mrs. Mathilda C. (Sjogren) Peterson, a native of Oland, Sweden, who came to Chicago in 1872, where her father, Gustav Sjogren, had located two years before. He was a carpenter; and after the great fire of 1871 he helped in the rebuilding of that metropolitan city. Mrs. Peterson was educated in the Franklin school in Chicago. The family removed to Minneapolis in 1883, and there she was married to Andrew W. Peterson, a photographer. On account of his ill health they came still further west, to California, in 1887, and she has the distinction of being the first woman of her nationality to locate in the town of Templeton. They purchased a farm at Willow Creek, where her husband died in 1893, and where she continued to reside until her second marriage, which united her with Swan Peterson.

Mr. and Mrs. Peterson engaged in grain-raising on the Willow Creek place, which they sold after a time. Then they bought the present home place of one hundred twelve acres, two and one half miles west of Templeton, where Mr. Peterson devotes his time to grain and stock-raising, having cleared the land for cultivation himself. He has made good improvements, among them a pumping plant; and he intends to put some of the land in to alfalfa. Four acres of it are in apple orchards. He also leases land and farms it. Having been reared a farmer's boy at home, he brought the knowledge thus



his adopted country, and has met with deserved

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Peterson four children were born. Mildred was graduated from the Mission High School of San Francisco and now attends the State Normal School of that city; Christene attends the Mission High School of San Francisco, class of 1917; and Elsie and Edith, twins, are in attendance at the Templeton High School. By her first marriage, Mrs. Peterson had two children: Esther, Mrs. Wolf, residing in San Francisco; and Elmer, who married Bertie Donelson and is residing in Santa Barbara.

Both Mr. Peterson and his wife are much respected by their many friends, and they and their agreeable family are highly esteemed in the community. Mr. Peterson is a school trustee of Bethel district and is serving his seventh year as clerk of the board. In politics he is a Republican. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church; and he is a deacon, and vice-president of the Sunday school. He was a delegate to the California Conference in Vineland in 1915. Mrs. Peterson was one of the charter members at the organization of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Templeton, and has been an active member ever since.

**HORACE G. WRIGHT.**—The editor and owner of the Paso Robles Leader has been a resident of Paso Robles since 1886. He was born in Preemption, Mercer county, Ill., January 31, 1848, a son of George W. and Maria (Morey) Wright, natives respectively of New York and Ohio. The father, a farmer in Illinois for a time, embarked in the mercantile business in Preemption and later was in the wholesale grocery business in Rock Island, Ill. In 1870, he came with members of his family to California and settled in Santa Clara, and there he and his wife died.

The eldest of two children, Horace G. Wright received his education in the public schools in Preemption and grew to manhood there and in Rock Island, Ill. In 1870 he came to California, settled in Santa Clara and established the Santa Clara Messenger; and later he purchased the Santa Clara Journal and edited and published it until he sold out to the present owners.

He purposed to retire from newspaper work, but inside of two weeks he had bought a new press and fonts of type and brought the outfit to the new town of Paso Robles, then being laid out. There he started the Paso Robles Leader, issuing the first edition two days before the sale of lots took place in the town; and ever since he has published the paper as a weekly, without missing a single issue. The newspaper is a six-column folio and a very newsy sheet. He built the corner now occupied by his plant at the corner of Park and Thirteenth streets.

Mr. Wright was married in Sacramento, August 15, 1872, to Miss Christina Munson, a native of St. Louis, Mo.; and she ably assists her husband as an editorial and descriptive writer for the Leader. They have had four children: Ohio, Mrs. Clark S. Smith; Lillie, Mrs. Tom Henry; Harry, deceased; and Mable, who was married to William Street, but is now deceased.

Mr. Wright is a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood. He was one of the founders of the local Methodist Church, has been on its official board since 1887, and was for twenty years superintendent of the Sunday school. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce. In politics, he aligns him-





*Ercole Biaggini*      *Mrs E Biaggini*

**ERCOLE BIAGGINI.**—Great credit is due those sturdy sons of Switzerland who endured privations and hardships to win positions of trust and honor in the various communities where they have become an integral factor in the business and social life. Such a man is Ercole Biaggini, who was born in Giubiasco, canton Ticino, Switzerland, on April 25, 1857. He attended the public schools there until he was fourteen years old, worked for his father on the farm, learned the trade of butcher, and lived at home until he was twenty-one.

In 1877 he served two months in the army, and the same year decided to come to the United States. With California as his objective point, he borrowed one hundred forty dollars of his father and embarked for the New World, arriving in San Francisco on December 23, 1878. He had no friends or relatives to look to for any advice, nor could he speak the English language. It was necessary for him to find employment, and he set out with that object in view and soon found someone who told him that a man in San Luis Obispo County wanted a man to milk cows; and although he had had no previous experience in that line of work, he decided he could quickly learn, and on January 10, 1879, he arrived in the county and went to the ranch of A. Tognazzini, where he was to receive twenty-five, and later thirty, dollars per month if he would remain one year. This was agreed upon and during the first eight months he paid his father two hundred dollars, the extra amount being an evidence of his appreciation. He gradually became acquainted with the English language, and learned how business was carried on in this country. At the end of the year he had saved a small sum of money, and then he decided to start a butcher business in Cayucos. There was competition, but during twenty-three years there were fifty-three different men in the other shop. His fair dealing and courteous manner won him customers and friends, and he carried on the business with profit until 1903.

In 1883, after he had acquired capital, he rented four hundred eighty acres of land, stocked it with seventy-five cows, and started in the dairy business. He retained the lease on this land for eleven years and met with gratifying results from his dairy, which he soon increased so that he had one hundred twenty-five cows, mostly Durhams. In 1884, he began buying and selling cattle and hogs, and he continued that line of business until 1913. In 1888 he bought 1,000 acres of land near Cayucos, and from time to time has added to his holdings until he now owns 7,400 acres in three different ranches, all lying near Cayucos, and divided into six dairy ranches, on two of which he owns the stock. In all, they maintain over 700 milch cows.

During these years Mr. Biaggini has devoted his time and attention to the improvement of his properties, keeping abreast of the times in the dairying industry, besides taking an active part in building up the community. He has always favored good schools and has served twenty-one years as trustee of Cayucos district, most of that time as clerk of the board. He is a stockholder in the Anglo-California Bank and Trust Co. in San Francisco, and also in the Swiss-American Bank in Locarno, Switzerland. In 1909 he built his beautiful home in Cayucos, and five big barns; and not being able to get the rate on lumber he thought he ought to have, Mr. Biaggini went to San Francisco and purchased what he needed, shipped it to his place, and thereby saved \$3,000.

In San Luis Obispo, January 3, 1885, Mr. Biaggini was united in marriage with Josephine Mozzini, a native of Giubiasco, canton Ticino, who was born January 28, 1866, into the home of Charles and Antonia (Biaggini) Mozzini. She arrived in San Luis Obispo County on December 21, 1884. They have had twelve children born to them; and of these seven are living. To his children Mr. Biaggini has given the best possible educational advantages, assisting them to become self-supporting men and women. They are: Esther, a graduate of California Hospital in Los Angeles, and proprietor of the Pacific Hospital in San Luis Obispo; Lena, a graduate from King's Conservatory of Music in San Jose, who is teaching music in Cayucos; Eddie, a graduate from Heald's Business College in San Jose, who runs a dairy on one of his father's ranches; Laura, a graduate of the San Luis Obispo High School; Charles, who graduated at the State Polytechnic School, and who is employed by his brother; Mary, who is attending the San Luis Obispo High School; and Meda.

In 1889 Mr. Biaggini took a trip back to Switzerland to visit his parents, who were both living at that time, though they have since died, his father in 1891, and his mother in 1900. When he returned to California he was more than satisfied that he had cast in his lot with this state of "golden opportunity." In 1910, with his wife, he made a second trip back to his native country, spending four months traveling through Switzerland, Italy, France, Germany and England; and on their return to this country, they took an extensive trip through the Northwest, enjoying every minute of it, both agreeing it was the best time of their lives.

Mr. Biaggini is an example of what can be accomplished by a young man who has ambition and perseverance. He began in this country with a debt hanging over him. The first thing he did was to pay his debts, and he then started in to accumulate. He was handicapped by not being able to talk English; and to learn, he bought a Swiss-English lexicon, which he studied into the late hours of night after his day's work was done, so that in time he became proficient, and was able to read and write and transact business in the English tongue. It is needless to say that the old lexicon is a prized relic in the family, who look upon it as a priceless heirloom. He gives due credit to his wife, who has been his able helpmate; for through their combined management and sacrifices they have reaped their reward of wealth. Young people of today would do well to emulate their example.

**THORNTON WASHINGTON CARR.**—One might write volumes about many of the men who have made names for themselves in various places where they may have lived for various periods of time, and finally settled in California to make a financial success, and there would be no variation in the story of Thornton Washington Carr of this review except to sum up, in a few words, and call it "Sixty Years of Hustling."

He was born in the Buckeye State, near Columbus, on June 30, 1840, the third child in a family of six; his parents were Jonathan and Jane (Weatherington) Carr, the former born in Virginia and the latter in Ohio. From Virginia Jonathan Carr moved to Ohio, and then to a farm near Alton, Ill., where he died. In the year following the death of her husband, Mrs. Carr took her children and returned to Ohio, and there she lived until the death of her third son. Then she removed to Van Buren county, Ind., in 1853, and

bought a farm; and there she died at a ripe old age. Of the children, four are living, two of them in California. These are Thornton W. Carr and Mrs. Elizabeth Briggs, the latter of Fulton, Sonoma county.

Reared on a farm in Iowa from the age of thirteen, in 1853, and used to hard, manual labor with but little opportunity to get an education, young Carr early learned the lessons of thrift and strict integrity, and became acquainted with many privations, for he had to help his mother in the support and care of the younger children. At the breaking out of the Civil War, he volunteered to fight for the preservation of his country; but he was rejected on account of his physical condition, and so he remained on the home farm until he was twenty-two years old. Then, when the mother died and the children scattered, he bought a farm and began for himself, raising grain and stock with a fair degree of success.

He was married to Miss Helen McCloskey, a native of Pennsylvania, on December 15, 1863, and they trod the pathway of life together until the Grim Reaper called her to her last home in February, 1906, while they were living on a ranch near Dinuba, Tulare county. The little farm in Iowa was carried on until 1876, when Mr. Carr sold out and came to this state; and locating near Fresno, he was among the pioneers of Selma where he assisted in building the first Kings river irrigation ditches, continuing in that location until 1884, when he sold out.

Then he tried another venture by purchasing an old burr flouring mill in Selma, but it was not a success and he lost all he had made up to this time and had to begin over again. Nothing daunted he stuck to California, the land of opportunity, homesteaded one hundred and sixty acres near Terra Bella, Tulare county, proved up on it and later traded it for stock; after which, in 1897, he came to Cholame, San Luis Obispo County, and raised wheat on the Cholame grant, running three big teams and tilling fifteen hundred acres of land. The last crop, raised in 1901, yielded fifteen thousand sacks of wheat. He hauled grain for months and hired others to haul to get it to the warehouse in Paso Robles. The price was low, only seventy-six cents; so he sold his outfit and removed to Dinuba. He bought thirty-five acres and set out a vineyard and raised grapes until he traded for some fifteen hundred twenty acres in Echo or Hog cañon, Monterey county. This he devoted to raising stock, cattle and horses, until 1911, when he leased the property and located in San Miguel, where he purchased his present residence and lives retired in the enjoyment of his accumulations of "sixty years of hustling."

Mr. Carr was married a second time at Milton, Ia., Miss Nina Weatherington, a native of that state, becoming his bride. By the union with his first wife, he had eight children—Robert, in Dinuba; Sophia, Mrs. Salladay, of Terra Bella; Iambie, Mrs. Russell, of Sanger; Oscar, in Monterey county; Benjamin, a farmer in Cholame valley; Maggie, Mrs. Reese of Kerman, Fresno county; Bertha, Mrs. Gilstrap of Gridley; and John, of Oroville.

Always an advocate of the Democratic party's principles, Mr. Carr was active politically in his earlier life, in the sections of country where he was a resident, serving as a school trustee for many years, doing all he could to maintain good schools. He is highly respected in Selma, Dinuba and San Miguel, the sections of this state where he has resided, and where he is looked upon as a sturdy pioneer.

**THOMAS ALLEN JONES AND MRS. SOPHIE BUTLER JONES.—**

That a monopoly, or even the greater part, of the credit for the pioneer development of California is due the male part of the population has never been conceded by even the most prejudiced. That women were the abiding inspiration of those uprooted from their original surroundings, and practically cast adrift amid new and untried conditions, is a glory which must forever overshadow anything that man may have accomplished. Among these noble and self-sacrificing women the name of Mrs. Sophie B. Jones is entitled to more than passing mention, and now, in the evening of her life, her friends, and all who are familiar with her career, insist that she is entitled to unstinted praise and all possible honor.

A native of Indiana, Mrs. Jones was born in Wayne county, January 24, 1842, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Hunt) Thornburg. She attended the public schools of Indiana and joined her parents in Iowa in 1862, they having settled in Redfield, where she was united in marriage, in March, 1865, with Thomas Allen Jones. Mr. Jones was born in Crawfordsville, Montgomery county, Ind., February 12, 1831, resided there until he was twenty-two, following the carpenter trade, and there married his first wife, Miss Mary Hunt, who passed away in 1859, leaving one son, Jeff Jones, now a member of the Santa Maria firm of T. A. Jones & Son.

In 1871, Mr. and Mrs. Jones came to California, settled in Santa Cruz county at Soquel, where he worked in the redwoods one year, and then came down to the Santa Maria valley, in which Mrs. Jones' father had settled. Here Mr. Jones farmed a claim of one hundred sixty acres two seasons, and then went back to Iowa and remained two years. His health failing him, he moved back to California; and in Santa Maria he started a carpenter shop on the site of the Burdette building. By good management and fair dealing, this little shop grew year by year; and as necessity demanded he began making furniture. Later, caskets and coffins, and still more furniture, were manufactured at his place until the shop grew into a business of considerable proportions.

In 1883 the building and most of the contents were destroyed by fire, but, nothing daunted, Mr. Jones at once began to rebuild better than ever, and once again started his business. He branched out, and each year saw him more prosperous and gaining in prestige; and thus that little carpenter shop was the foundation of the present large store doing business under the name of T. A. Jones & Son, which is now one of the largest establishments of its kind in the central coast counties. Mr. Jones died in 1902, since which time the business has been carried on by Mrs. Jones and her sons.

Mrs. Jones became the mother of three children: Emma, wife of William Abels of Santa Maria; George Washington, who died at the age of four years; and Albert R., of the firm of T. A. Jones & Son.

Mrs. Jones is a member of the Christian Church, is a Republican, and one of the most liberal and most beloved women of the city. She was the organizer of the Minerva Literary Club, named by her in honor of her step-mother, Mrs. Minerva Thornburg, who was one of the noblest women that ever lived in Santa Maria valley. Mrs. Jones donated two lots for the club building and is a life member. She is hospitable, charitable, progressive and ever willing to lend aid to all worthy projects for the upbuilding of her city.







*Thomas Allen Jones*



*Sophia B Jones.*



and to uplift humanity in general. In the evening of her days she looks back upon a life well spent and forward without fear, for she has been a strict follower of the Golden Rule.

**MR. AND MRS. JOHN D. BIGGS.**—The pioneers of the early fifties are fast passing away, and but few of them are left to recount the experiences of the early time, that to the present generation seem so mythical. One of the pioneers of San Luis Obispo County associated with the romantic past is John Biggs, who was born near Little Rock, Ark., January 27, 1841, a son of David Biggs, a descendant of an old Southern family, a pioneer of Texas and California, and a prominent Mason of the early period. When John was a baby his parents moved to Texas; and after remaining there a few years started overland for California with ox teams, coming over the southern route by way of San Antonio, El Paso and Rio Grande, and landing in 1854 in California. They settled for a time at El Monte, then one of the first stopping-places for emigrants this side of the mountains. In 1856 the family moved to Tulare county, where, for the next five years, the father was engaged in the stock business. Father and son drove a band of five hundred cattle over the mountains into San Luis Obispo County in 1861, when they settled here, and were the first white men to run cattle in this county. Those were stirring times: Indians were numerous and not any too friendly, and would steal cattle at the first opportunity; grizzly bears were plentiful, and Mr. Biggs, then a young man of eighteen, killed many of them. He passed through the trying times of frontier life; and while he had many narrow escapes from bears and Indians, was fortunate in not meeting with any accidents. After remaining with his father a few years, he struck out on his own account. He engaged in farming in the Creston district, took up a government claim and bought two others, engaged in dairying and the raising of cattle, and for sixteen years was in the grain business. He became owner of five hundred fifty acres of land which he improved with buildings and fences, and made productive. In 1910 Mr. Biggs sold his ranch and moved into San Luis Obispo, where he has since lived retired.

On August 2, 1864, Mr. Biggs was united in marriage with Miss Louisa See, who was born on August 12, 1843, in Monroe county, Ind., a daughter of Joseph See, a native of Kentucky, who moved to Indiana and from there to Texas, and thence to California, coming with ox teams over the southern route, and settling first in San Bernardino county. In 1860, he came with his family to San Luis Obispo county and bought land, which was named See Cañon after him. He farmed here for many years. He lived to be eighty-eight years of age, and was a very influential and public-spirited man. Mr. and Mrs. Biggs became the parents of the following children: Joseph, of Paso Robles; Mrs. Pernicia Duffy, of San Luis Obispo; Mrs. Martha Nicholson, at home; John C., in Los Angeles; Mrs. Ida Simkins, of Colusa; Mrs. Lillian Kenny, residing in San Francisco; Mrs. Caroline Snyder, of Oakland; and Mrs. Leah Perry, of Salinas. There are eight grandchildren to brighten the family circle.

In the early days in this county thousands of head of cattle could be counted from the tops of the hills, grazing in the valleys below. Thousands of sheep were herded on the plains and wild horses roamed the deserts and mesas. Bull fights were of frequent occurrence in the streets of San Luis Obispo, and many Indians were shot: Those pioneer times were indeed stir-

ring. Mrs. Biggs slept with her husband's six-shooter at the head of her bed when he was away on business; and she tells of once walking a desperate character ahead of her horse for three miles, his hands in the air. She was known as a good shot; and being deadlly in earnest, she succeeded in delivering her prisoner over to others.

At the time of the settlement of Mr. Biggs on his ranch there were no schools outside of San Luis Obispo. So the few families that lived in that section got together and hired an Englishman for a teacher; and Mrs. Biggs gave up her kitchen, that had been built as a lean-to on their log house, for a school-room until a suitable building could be erected. Mr. Biggs was a friend of education, and served about twenty-five years as a director of the old Santa Fe district.

**HERMAN BUDAN.**—Among the prominent German-Americans who contributed to the development of San Luis Obispo County, Herman Budan occupied a conspicuous place, for he possessed to a large degree the traits of character upon which material success is founded. He was born in 1842, in Germany, and died December 7, 1907, in San Luis Obispo County. He attended school in his native country, where he remained for a short time thereafter. He then came to the United States, when he was quite a young man, and drifted westward.

He stopped for a time in Utah, and happening to discover the Ontario mine, he followed prospecting and mining in Utah and Nevada for many years. Mr. Budan was associated with the late United States Senator George Hearst in his mining interests in those two states, and after severing his relations with Mr. Hearst, he took a trip back to visit his old home in Germany. At the conclusion of a pleasant stay there, he again came to California, and settled in Sonoma county, near Santa Rosa, where he engaged in ranching and the dairy business until 1886, when he came to San Luis Obispo County, and, purchasing two hundred acres of land in the Avila district, began farming and dairying, continuing that occupation until his death.

He married Hanna Christensen, a native of Denmark, who died in 1910, and they became parents of six children: Mrs. Annie Gorham, in Alaska; Mr. Lulu Jetreys, residing in Los Angeles; Mary; Clara, deceased; and Edith and Herman.

Mr. Budan became a very prominent citizen, was a Republican in politics, and served ten years as a member of the county central committee. He was a friend of education, and supported and advocated the maintenance of good schools.

**EDITH B. BUDAN**, the youngest daughter of Herman Budan, is following in the footsteps of her father in trying to benefit mankind wherever it is possible. She is conducting and is the owner of Ontario Hot Springs, located on the state highway between San Luis Obispo and Pismo, on a part of the ranch owned by her father. These springs have been tested and show many valuable medicinal qualities. The temperature of the water as it comes from the spring is 128°. The water is impregnated with sulphur, and is a cure for rheumatism. Here Miss Budan has erected suitable buildings, and a bath house with eight tubs. The accommodations are modern, and suitable attendants are provided for her patrons. She has built up a fine business and a great many people have been benefited by treatment at the Ontario Hot

**MANUEL J. SOUZA, SR.**—One of the well-to-do Portuguese citizens of the Santa Maria valley is Manuel J. Souza, Sr., now the owner of four valuable ranches. His home place is well improved with a modern bungalow, and with barns and outbuildings, all kept in good repair. He is a veteran bean grower, and has made money by personal supervision of his ranch operations and careful attention to details.

Manuel J. Souza was born January 15, 1850, in the Azores islands, from which, at the age of twenty, he went to sea and for four years was on a whaler, out of New Bedford, Mass., returning home in 1874. The next year he came to California and began working as a farm hand for small wages. He soon became acquainted with the methods of doing business, and with the English language, and when he had saved money, he was united in marriage, in 1878, with Miss Maria Lawrence Bello. Soon after this Mr. Souza began leasing land and working for himself, year by year strengthening his position in the community. His first purchase of land was of eighty acres, and from time to time he has added to that nucleus until now he is the owner of four hundred acres of valuable land. He has never cared for politics, although he votes the Republican ticket. Mr. Souza and his family attend the Catholic Church; and he is a member of the I. D. E. S. Lodge of Santa Maria.

Mr. and Mrs. Souza are the parents of eight children: Mary L., Joe J., Manuel J., Frank E., Annie J., Antone J., John L., and Maria de Gloria, the wife of Manuel C. Gracé. Joe and Frank are ranchers in the valley, Antone conducts a store in Guadalupe, and John is employed in a bank at Santa Maria.

Manuel J. Souza, Jr., was born on the Oso Flaco, attended the public school, and commenced work on the ranch for his father after he was twelve years of age. He is now a successful rancher and one of the progressive Portuguese in the valley. He was united in marriage with Rosa Garcia, who was born at Arroyo Grande; and they have three children, Alice, Bernice and Henry. In 1916 Mr. Souza erected his present home, where he and his family are comfortably located. He and his wife are Socialists. He is a member of the I. D. E. S., of Santa Maria, and is one of the trustees of the lodge.

**ALBERT PFISTER.**—In the life of this successful banker of Paso Robles are illustrated the results of perseverance and energy. He is a citizen of whom any community might well feel proud, and the people of San Luis Obispo County, fully appreciating his ability, accord him a place in the foremost ranks of representative business men. Identified with the history of Paso Robles since 1887, he has witnessed its gradual growth and the development of its commercial interests as well as the gradual increase of its population by the removal hither of men of enterprise, intelligence and high standing. His parents, Joseph and Margaret (Stahle) Pfister, both natives of Germany, were living in Colusa County, California, at the time he was born, November 6, 1859. His father was born in Wurttemberg, came to Pittsburg, Penn., when a mere lad and was employed in the steel mills until 1852, when he outfitted with provisions and mule teams, and crossed the plains to California from St. Joseph, Mo. The first two years were spent in mining; then he returned to Pittsburg and married, the newly wedded couple soon coming to California, via Nicaragua. There were some three hundred in the party that landed at Nicaragua, but it was at the time

of the Walker filibuster expedition and they were held six weeks before being allowed to cross. In the meantime yellow fever broke out among the immigrants and all died but eighty, a sister of Mrs. Pfister being among the number who perished.

Arriving in San Francisco, Joseph Pfister engaged in teaming to the mines in Washoe, Nevada, his wife residing on land entered from the government, in Colusa County. On account of dry years, they abandoned the land and moved to Napa county, near Suscol, and farmed there until 1868, when he removed to Contra Costa County, and bought a tract of land at Pinole, and improved it with a house and suitable outbuildings. This property of two hundred twenty-seven acres adjoining Pinole is still in possession of the family. There Mr. Pfister died in 1892, aged sixty-eight years; and his wife died in 1885. They were parents of seven children: Albert; Rose, of Suisun; Minnie, Mrs. Nudd of Dixon; Paul, of Paso Robles; John, in Los Angeles County; Joseph, a dentist in San Francisco; and Augusta, Mrs. Harper, of Suisun.

Albert Pfister accompanied his parents to Contra Costa County when nine years old, attended the public schools in Pinole and later in San Francisco, at South Cosmopolitan grammar school and the old high school on Clay street, and graduated in 1876. He then learned the trade of machinist and mechanical engineer and followed it ten years, part of the time being employed in the powder works at Pinole as a machinist. He then went to Dixon and engaged in ranching for two years; and again going back to his trade, he spent one year as master mechanic at the Mahoney mine in Amador County.

In 1887 he came to Paso Robles, bought land near by, and followed grain and stock-raising on part of the Santa Ysabel ranch. Later he purchased nine hundred sixty acres, continuing the grain and stock business until selling out. In the meantime he had formed other interests in the growing city of Paso Robles, in 1893 being elected a director of the Citizens Bank, of which institution he was chosen cashier in 1899, a position he has since occupied. In 1909, the Bank of Paso Robles met with reverses and was closed; the Citizens Bank took over the affairs of the defunct institution; and in due time all depositors were paid one hundred cents on the dollar. The Citizens Bank was organized in 1892 with \$100,000 capital, of which \$60,000 was paid up. The deposits now exceed \$700,000. This bank has made an exceptional record and is one of the leading financial institutions in the county. As manager and cashier, Mr. Pfister has the confidence of the people throughout the northern part of San Luis Obispo County; and it is the consensus of opinion that the success of the Citizens Bank is due largely to Mr. Pfister's excellent judgment and careful and conservative management, and under his wise supervision the depositors of the bank know that the money they have intrusted to its care is in safe keeping.

Another enterprise of Mr. Pfister's was the organization of the firm of Pfister, Ladd & Co., dealers in hardware and farm implements, at the corner of Twelfth and Pine streets. In 1912 this was incorporated by Albert and Paul Pfister as the Paso Robles Mercantile Company, and at that time they branched out and established the present large department store. Albert Pfister is the manager and gives it his close supervision; and it is remarkable to note his physical and mental capacity for work, which seemingly never







William C. Stiles. 1141 No. 5th St.

tires him. A Republican, he has served as a member of the county central committee, and as city trustee, and is a member and active worker in the Chamber of Commerce. Fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is prominent among the bankers of the county, very conservative and successful, and is an excellent judge of land values as well as of securities. The Citizens Bank enjoys the largest business in this section of the state, and its cashier is recognized as a leader in financial circles.

**WILLIAM C. STOKES.**—The state of California has among its citizenship the representatives of almost every nation of the globe. Many of those who played a most important part have been of Spanish blood, and their descendants have exemplified true western spirit and have entered heartily into every branch of industry, and the professions, and are today among the most highly respected men and women of the state. In Guadalupe, William C. Stokes is a worthy representative of an English and Spanish family. He was born in old Monterey, August 1, 1846. His father, Dr. James Stokes, was a native of England, who came to California in 1839, on a sailing vessel via Cape Horn. He practiced medicine in San Jose, kept a general merchandise store and owned about one thousand acres of land in various places. He later lived in Monterey, where he had large landholdings, raised sheep and cattle, served as postmaster and was a very prominent citizen of the early period. By his marriage with Miss Josephine Soto he allied himself with an old Spanish family of San Jose and Monterey, also a family of large landowners and stock-raisers. Five children were born of this union: William C., Mrs. Josephine Winterburn, Mrs. Louisa Gonzales, Mrs. Kate Sherwood, and Henry.

William C. Stokes, the eldest of the family, was educated in the schools of San Jose, assisted his father in the care of his sheep and cattle, and when still quite young, with assistants, drove stock from the ranch into Nevada, where he sold them. In 1867, when twenty-one, with seventeen other men, he drove eleven hundred head of horses across the plains to Omaha, Neb. Disposing of them, he returned to California via Panama, and engaged in dairying in Monterey county two years.

In 1870 he came to Santa Barbara county, and bought property on Main street, Guadalupe, which included an old adobe ranch house, one of the historic landmarks of the county, in which Mr. Stokes now resides. Here he ran a dairy of one hundred cows, making cheese and butter until 1877, when the dry season caused the loss of all his cattle. Mr. Stokes then took up a government claim of one hundred sixty acres near town, proved up on it, added to the same from time to time, and now has three hundred thirty acres which he is farming to grain and beans, with some stock. Since the discovery of oil in this section of the state, this land has become very valuable and is now leased to an oil company, from which Mr. Stokes derives a good revenue.

William Stokes was married to Miss Matilda A. Fisher, a native of Ohio, near Zanesville. She was the daughter of Abraham and Rhoda (Rogers) Fisher, both born in Ohio and merchants till they removed to Illinois about 1857, locating near Rochelle, Ogle county. The father engaged in farming until he died. The mother afterwards married J. H. Orcutt and came to San Luis Obispo County, California; she now makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Stokes. She is eighty five years old. Of her four children,

Stokes is the only one now living. After coming to California, Miss Fisher was educated in a private school near Guadalupe; and here she resided till her marriage, April 25, 1874, to Judge Stokes. Mr. and Mrs. Stokes have nine children: Mrs. Josephine Colbath, Ronald, Walter, Mrs. Evelyn Bertrand, Alfred, Leland, Mrs. Elouise Livingston, Paul, and Carl. There are four grandchildren to brighten the life of their fond grandparents.

Mr. Stokes has been a faithful servant of the people; and having been elected to the office of Justice of the Peace of his township, he is now serving his fourth consecutive term. There is no man in the Santa Maria valley who believes more strongly in progression, or advocates more heartily all measures to uplift humanity, than does Judge Stokes. His success has been the result of his own efforts, and he is now living practically retired with the exception of his judicial duties. He is one of the oldest native sons living in Santa Barbara county today, and wherever he is known he is highly esteemed and respected.

**CHRESTEN A. IVERSEN.**—California's rapid strides and improvement are in large measure due to the countries of the Old World, among them the minor kingdom of Denmark, whose naturally capable sons and daughters have gone forth into other lands to influence modern civilization. An illustration of Denmark's friendly and highly appreciated contribution to the development of the Golden State is found in such a career as that of Chresten A. Iversen, the pioneer of Union district, who located there when there was neither a country road nor a windmill east of the Salinas river. Mr. Iversen was born near Ballum, Denmark, on Christmas Day, 1861. His father was Hans Iversen, an interesting sketch of whose life is given on a separate page in this work. Chresten was the third eldest child and was given every educational advantage that the public schools could afford.

When he was seventeen years of age, however, he broke away from the schools and determined to leave for America and California, two brothers, Iver and Mat., having preceded him to the New World. Having crossed the American continent, Chresten was the first of the family to reach the Pacific coast. He arrived in San Francisco with three dollars in his purse, engaged himself for a year at ten dollars a month, and faithfully carried out his part of the agreement. Later he ran a restaurant on East street in San Francisco, but hearing of government lands in San Luis Obispo County, and of their distribution to the public, he came with his father and his brother Mat. and three friends, and located a homestead of one hundred sixty acres on Dry Creek in Union district, after which, for a short time, he returned to San Francisco, to work.

In San Francisco, June 21, 1884, he married Miss Annie Lena Christensen, who was also born near Ballum. Her father was Andreas Christensen, a veteran of the Wars of 1848 and 1864, in which he fought against Germany, and he now lives in California, aged ninety-two, with his daughter. Her mother was Louise Christensen, who is now deceased. In 1908, Mr. and Mrs. Christensen celebrated their golden wedding at Union. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Iversen located on their homestead, and continued the improvements already begun there. They built an adobe house and cleared and broke the land; and just what agriculture in those days and in that section meant may be gathered from a fact or two in the development of this steadily progressing ranchman. In 1883, his father had sown some wheat on their three

homesteads, which he harvested with a scythe in 1884; and from his portion he obtained three hundred twelve sacks of first-class grain, a sample of which, sent to the immigration offices in San Francisco, was pronounced the best among a hundred or more varieties. In 1885, too, the Iversens harvested with a header, but in 1901 they bought and operated a combined harvester. Mr. Iversen then rented some adjoining land, and bought other acreage, and engaged in raising wheat, moving about, also, onto different places which he farmed. In one year he raised five thousand five hundred sacks, and for three years he farmed near San Miguel.

In 1904, he bought a part of his present place, moving onto it in 1906, and later purchased more land adjoining; so that today he has eight hundred acres in a body. He also still owns the old homestead of one hundred sixty acres. With his son, Andrew, and a brother, C. F., he owns one hundred sixty acres near Union, forty-five acres of which he has set out to almonds. He superintends the operations of the farm himself, which he accomplishes with the latest and most improved machinery. A result of his indefatigable labor is that he has wrung a fortune from Mother Earth. Mr. Iversen hauled his first three crops to San Luis Obispo, taking three days for the round trip. The fourth crop was delivered in Paso Robles, the railroad, then completed, having provided a much more rapid means of transit. Already a leader among ranchers, it was natural that, in 1891, he should become one of the organizers of the Farmers' Alliance Business Association, that built the large warehouses of Paso Robles, of which he is a director. He was also one of the organizers of the Good-Will mining syndicate, engaged in operating and developing a copper and iron mine in Los Osos valley near Morro Bay. It has already made a valuable showing, and he has thus established a precedent for which he deserves much credit. He is liberal and enterprising, and believes that a man who has been successful should be willing to devote a percentage of his profits to the development of the natural resources of the county in which he lives.

Mr. and Mrs. Iversen have had seven children: Mary, the wife of Mr. H. Lund, who farms in the Union District; Andrew, who married Margaret Paulus, and is a farmer on the Estrella ranch; Louise, who died at the age of seventeen; Jenny, Mrs. Chris Jespersen, who lives on the Estrella ranch; Hetty, who died at two years of age; Alice, a clerk in the Emporium at Paso Robles; and Harry, who attends the local high school. Inspired with the socially helpful spirit, Mr. Iversen is a member of the Free and Accepted Masons, being affiliated with Paso Robles Lodge No. 286; while in matters of religion he prefers both the theological tenets and the form of government of the Lutherans. In every respect Mr. Iversen is enterprising and progressive, a man of native ability and acquired knowledge, and a citizen esteemed and well liked.

**LAURA WHITE WOLF.**—The influence wielded by women in business affairs is demonstrated by the success achieved by Mrs. Laura White Wolf of San Luis Obispo, lessee of the Elks Theater for the past two years, and a resident of the city for twenty years. She was born in Salt Lake City, June 2, 1866, a daughter of Richard Cullen White, of English birth and ancestry. He was a descendant of the "House of White," and a man of superior intelligence and education. He migrated to Canada with an uncle when a very young man. Soon leaving his uncle, he came to the United States, where he

engaged in newspaper work, fought in the Civil War, followed a literary career and became a playwright of prominence. As an author and a linguist, he was equalled by few. On his arrival in California, he embarked in the theatrical business, writing and producing his own plays. He went to Montana for a time, but finally came back to this state. He was the first one to dramatize "She," as well as many of the very best dramas and operas; and none of his productions were failures. He made and expended several fortunes, lived his life to its full, and spent his last years at the home of his daughter in San Luis Obispo. When he was about eighty-five years old, he decided to master Spanish, and one winter spent in study enabled him to speak the language fluently. He died in 1916 at the age of eighty-nine years. His was a wonderful life, blessed with the rewards that come to those whose lives are directed in the right channels. His good wife, Mary Lash, was born in Richmond, Va., a daughter of Elizabeth Bryan, a member of the same family as the "Peerless Orator." She was highly educated, a leader in society, and besides her daughter Laura, had one son, Richard Cullen White, and another daughter, Lenor White Barnett, both of whom became famous.

When she was three months old, Laura White was brought to California by her parents. Her education was obtained in a convent in Portland, Oregon. She became her father's companion, and it was but natural that she should participate in his theatrical ventures, later taking a prominent part in his productions; and from that time she followed the profession until she came to San Luis Obispo. Through her professional career she met the man she later married, and in Paterson, New Jersey, Daniel Wolf and Laura White were made husband and wife. Later they had their own company on the road, consisting of eighty persons. Arriving in San Luis Obispo, Mr. and Mrs. Wolf located for a time, and here her daughter, Violet Mercy Wolf, was born; she also had a son named after her father, that died in infancy. Mrs. Wolf gave to her baby girl her entire time and loving care, intending, when the latter was old enough, once more to take up her profession; but this resolution was never carried out, for her whole life was bound up in her child. She saw her pass through the grammar school and graduate from the high school in this city, and finally take a finishing course in Notre Dame convent in San Jose. This daughter is now living with her mother, at home.

Mr. Wolf was born in New York City, of German-Jewish extraction, was educated in the public schools and later became associated as a master electrician in the theatrical business. After his marriage, he traveled together with his wife in their own company. Since locating in San Luis Obispo, he has engaged in various theatrical ventures. For a time he had a show house in the old pavilion, then for five years was superintendent of the county hospital, and then ran the Elks Theater for about two years. He is public-spirited, well liked by all, and is familiarly known as "Dan" Wolf by those who know him best.

For the past twenty years Mrs. Wolf has been a valued citizen of San Luis Obispo. She has always willingly given of her time and talents to help church and charity, and has liberally given of her means to promote the welfare of the city, which she has grown to love for its early associations. She has a wide acquaintance among theatrical people throughout the country, has enjoyed her life to its full capacity, and is living in the quiet contentment of her home and the enjoyment of an ever widening circle of friends.





*James Henry Rucker*

**JAMES H. RUCKER.**—In improving the western opportunities that have come his way, James H. Rucker, one of the substantial citizens of Paso Robles, has displayed characteristic enterprise. He was born in Bloomington, Ill., December 24, 1849, a son of Ambrose Rucker, who was a native of Virginia, from the Rappahannock, and of Scotch descent. He was married near Woodstock, Va., to Catherine Ruth Carran, a native of that vicinity. After their marriage, Mr. Rucker migrated to Ohio, thence to Bloomington, Ill., and thence to Mt. Pleasant, Ia., where he worked at his trade of blacksmith, opening a shop and doing a good business until 1849, when he was seized with the gold fever and came across the plains in the spring of that year. He mined at Placerville, then known as Hangtown, with success, and then returned home via Panama. During his trip to California, his wife had gone to the home of her parents in Illinois, and it was while there that her son, James H., was born. After the return of Mr. Rucker, they located again near Mt. Pleasant, Henry county, Ia., and here he engaged in farming and blacksmithing, six miles from town.

He continued to farm and work at his trade with success until 1864, when he determined to come again to California to live. He outfitted with four big wagons, each having four yoke of oxen, and a carryall drawn by horses. He loaded in a complete blacksmith outfit and goods, intending to stop at East Bannock, Idaho, but on arrival there, he decided to continue his journey. He therefore took the Landers cut-off and, acting as captain of the train, went from the North Platte to Oregon. They spent that winter at Albany, Mr. Rucker working in the logging camps until spring, when they continued over the mountains to California, and arrived at San Jose in August, 1865. He leased a ranch at Los Gatos for two years and engaged in ranching; then he bought a place on New Almaden road in Union district, cleared the land, erected buildings and set out a vineyard of sixty acres, opened a blacksmith shop and lived there until 1878, when he moved into San Jose and retired. He died in August, 1880, aged seventy-three. His wife passed her last days in San Jose and died in 1898 at the age of seventy-seven. They had twelve children, nine of whom grew up and five of whom are living.

The oldest of the living children, James H. Rucker, was brought up on the Iowa farm until he was fourteen, and then came across the plains with his parents, who made the trip without incident. He and a brother drove one team all the way, taking six months for the journey to Oregon. He attended school in the Union district, Santa Clara county, and remained at home until he was eighteen; then he worked for wages on the ranches about Santa Clara, being in the employ of "Old Joe" Rucker for many years, and attending, for a short time, the Cambria school of that county.

Five years were spent in railroad work on the San Joaquin valley division for the Southern Pacific, when he quit and went to Monterey county, and in April, 1875, bought a farm of one hundred sixty acres and began raising stock and grain. During 1888 he came to this county, and at San Miguel leased twelve hundred eighty acres of the Corriente Land Company, on which he raised grain on an extensive scale. First he had a header, and then a combined harvester; and he also cut on contract until 1908. In the meantime, he had bought several ranches, one of four hundred eighty acres in Slack's canyon, another of two hundred forty acres in Ranchita canyon,



and another of one hundred sixty acres in Vineyard canyon; and on these he engaged in stock-raising until 1908, when he leased the properties and located in Paso Robles. Here he purchased his residence at 2005 Oak street, where he is very comfortably located with his family. Since moving to the city he has sold his ranches and purchased a fruit farm of nine and one half acres adjoining Paso Robles. He has peaches, almonds, cherries and pears, and is engaged both in the cultivation of this land and in the loaning of money.

Mr. Rucker has been twice married. On the first occasion, in San Luis Obispo, his bride was Mrs. Alice (Brock) Wren, who was born in Texas and died in San Miguel, leaving one daughter, Alta May, now Mrs. Bates of Paso Robles. The second marriage united him with Mrs. Martha (Gillespie) Cushing, who was born near Petaluma, Sonoma county. Her father William crossed the plains in 1849, and was married in Sonoma county to Caroline Leffingwell, and in 1862 they came to San Luis Obispo County. Mrs. Rucker was educated in the Cambria schools of this county and is Past Noble Grand of Natalia Lodge, No. 216, Rebekahs, of San Miguel. Politically, Mr. Rucker is a Democrat.

**SAMUEL T. COINER.**—Prominent among the Southern States that long contributed both to the number and to the quality of the pioneers who transformed California from a wilderness to the Golden State, is Virginia, the birthplace of Samuel T. Coiner, land contractor for the Union Sugar Co. Mr. Coiner was born on December 23, 1857, the son of Daniel Coiner, one of the first white men (excepting, of course, the early Spaniards) to take up residence in the Santa Maria valley. His great-great-grandfather was born in Germany, and came to Virginia as the master of a merchant ship. He traded with New Orleans, and in Pennsylvania he won the heart and hand of Margaret Diller. They reared a large family; and so numerous were the descendants of this sturdy old seafarer that when a reunion of the Coiners was held in Augusta county, Virginia, in 1881, not less than two thousand two hundred persons were present, and among these were a hundred thirty-six voters in that county.

Daniel Coiner came to Salinas in 1867. When he took up his residence in the valley he bought a quarter interest in the Punta de la Laguna Rancho, near Guadalupe; but owing to a dispute as to boundary lines and unfortunate litigation, he lost all of his equity, and had to begin over again. A year after his arrival in Salinas, he sent for his family; and it was then that Samuel Coiner came across the Isthmus with his mother, whose maiden name was Isabelle Anderson, and who was of Scotch descent. While the Coiners originally belonged to the Pennsylvania Germans, her family was numbered among the early Virginia farmers. Twelve children were born to Daniel Coiner and his devoted helpmeet. The oldest, Mary Fanny, died when she was thirteen years old at Salinas; and only two, Samuel Coiner and Mrs. W. H. Rice, of Santa Maria, remained in the Santa Maria valley.

From 1868 to 1872, Samuel resided with his family in Monterey county, where he continued the public school course begun in Virginia, and eventually finished in the first public school of Guadalupe. In 1875, or a year after he came into the Santa Maria valley, Samuel Coiner was married in Los Alamos to Miss Catherine Fields, a daughter of Edmund and Lucy Fields, the latter a charming lady still residing with the subject of this

sketch at Betteravia; and six children blessed the union. Arthur married Birdie McCann, and lived at Los Alamos, dying in 1915. Lucy became the wife of George P. Merritt, secretary and auditor for the Pinal-Dome Oil Co. at Santa Maria. Lulu is the wife of Arthur Froom, a prominent business man of Santa Maria. Frances married J. P. de l'Eau, the civil engineer of the Union Sugar Co. Nora was joined in wedlock to Ralph Dyer, a city salesman for Chanslor-Lyon in Los Angeles. Ethel is a trained nurse in the first-aid department of the hospital at Betteravia.

A strong, manly man with forceful character, and a good judge of human nature, cordial and liked by everybody, Samuel Coiner was able to take up the responsibilities of a land contractor for the Union Sugar Co., and successfully to lease about ten thousand acres devoted to sugar beet culture and supplying the factory with over one hundred thousand tons of beets per annum. He owns a residence at Santa Maria, but lives at Betteravia. He is a Presbyterian in his church affiliations, and a Democrat by political conviction. Fraternally, he is associated with the Masons, the Elks of San Luis Obispo, and the Knights of Pythias of Santa Maria.

**JOHN CALHOUN PREWITT.**—As might be surmised from the illustrious given name borne by John Calhoun Prewitt, the popular leader of Santa Margarita, he is an offspring from a Southern family proud of its social and political affiliations, although he himself is a native son, Paraiso Springs, Monterey county, claiming his birth. His father, Green Lemuel Prewitt, was a Southern gentleman of the old school, to whom California so appealed that he was willing, as a young man, in 1849, to travel on the laborious and tedious journey across the great plains with no better motor service than that of a yoke or two of oxen. This sturdy pioneer settled near Salinas, and farmed there, after which he removed to Paraiso Springs and eventually died at Soledad. He married Theresa Ripley, a noble native daughter, and attractive from her childhood. She was born in Monterey, a daughter of Captain Ripley, one of those early navigators who were educated especially in surveying, and who were bound to become, once they abandoned the sea, prominent as men of affairs. He was sheriff and later treasurer of Monterey county, and left behind him an enviable record both as a private citizen and as a public official. Theresa (Ripley) Prewitt died at Soledad, and was buried there beside her honored husband.

John was the second youngest of four children, brought up on a farm; and having attended the public school, he went to work at the early age of fourteen on one ranch or another, putting in two summers of hard work with an uncle. An agreeable change came when, for three years, he clerked in a store in King City, obtaining there a most valuable insight into human nature and invaluable preparation for the responsibilities of later years. In that same town, in 1902, he was in the employ of the Southern Pacific Milling Co.; and there, as elsewhere, both before and since, he proved his efficiency. Particularly was he valuable as foreman of the warehouse and lumber yard. Near King City he married Miss Sally M. Mansfield, a native of Gorda, and now the mother of two beautiful children, Dorothy and Herschel. After serving as foreman of the warehouse, he went to Metz, Monterey county, as the agent of the same company, and in 1911 he came to Santa Margarita still as agent for the company, having charge of their warehouse and lumber yard.

Mr. Prewitt is prominent politically, as a Republican. In religious circles, he is an active member of the Presbyterian Church. He is serving as clerk, for the second term, of the board of school trustees of the Santa Margarita school district. Just what the value of public services by private citizens with business experience and common sense may mean is shown from the work accomplished by this board, which in January, 1916, began to build the new schoolhouse, whose completion was celebrated on May 13. For such a district as this the school building is large, being one hundred twenty-three by one hundred twenty-four feet in size. The whole structure is of mission style with reinforced concrete, and cost fully \$15,000—an outlay attesting the generous and advanced spirit of the people of Santa Margarita.

A Mason and a Senior Warden in Lodge No. 302, F. & A. M., at King City, and a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. E., Mr. Prewitt is able to communicate his kindly spirit of good-fellowship to many others in the local circles in which he moves; and few persons in modest position in this neighborhood enjoy a greater influence for good and for the general uplift of the community.

**MRS. LULU TERRILL GARKEE.**—A native daughter of the golden West, and one who has been very much interested in the preservation of the landmarks of historical interest left by the forerunners of civilization, is Mrs. Lulu Terrill Garkee, whose father was Richard Terrill, born in Mexico, where his parents had gone to look after the numerous mining interests of his father, Dr. Able Terrill, in the vicinity of Guadalupe. Dr. Terrill was born in Pennsylvania of Scotch-Irish descent, and soon after Richard was born the family went back to Pennsylvania and, in 1849, crossed the plains with horse teams to California and settled in the mining region in Calaveras county, where the father passed away.

Richard Terrill was reared in this state. In San Francisco, he was united in marriage with Miss Ramona Botellio, a native of Spain. She had come to this country with her parents and here met and married Mr. Terrill; and after the happy event, they moved to Half Moon Bay, San Mateo county, and engaged in the raising of fine horses for market, receiving good prices for them. He became a large landowner at Half Moon Bay, eventually selling out and retiring to Los Angeles, where he died. His wife passed away in San Luis Obispo.

Of the five children born to this worthy couple, three are living, Mrs. Lulu Garkee being the second in order of birth. She was born in Half Moon Bay, and attended the public schools there, and also the San Mateo Academy. The marriage uniting her with Charles Garkee, who was a native of Milwaukee, Wis., of French descent, was solemnized in San Luis Obispo. Mr. Garkee came to California a young man. He was a civil engineer and surveyor. After marriage they settled in San Francisco, where, with different companies, he followed his profession until his death, after which his widow remained in that city until 1907. On account of ill health, she came to Paso Robles and has since made it her home.

She is a member of San Miguel Parlor, N. D. G. W. In politics she is a Republican. She is public-spirited and supports all public movements for the benefit of the community. Since taking up her residence here she has surrounded herself with a host of friends, who respect her for her strength of character and integrity.





*S. Campodonico*

**S. CAMPODONICO.**—A prominent business man of Guadalupe and one of its leading citizens, S. Campodonico was born at Carasco, Circuit of Chiavari, Italy, January 10, 1840. His father, John Campodonico, was a cobbler by trade, a handy man with all kinds of tools; and being a man of intelligence and considerable learning, he attained to some prominence in official circles in his native circuit, filling various petty offices and clerkships, such as assistant tax collector, and clerk of the board of supervisors. He was a man of good, hard common sense, who attained an age of more than seventy, when he was injured by an accidental fall, from which he died. His entire life was passed in Italy. His wife was also a person of great vitality, living to be over ninety.

S. Campodonico's early life was passed in the home of his parents in Italy, where his father, being a man of scholarly attainments, taught his son the common branches in the Italian language. A lad of precocious mind, he was sent to a boys' seminary, April 4, 1853, where he immediately went into the class of the second grade, and at the end of the first month stood second in a class of more than ninety; at the end of the second month he held first rank, and maintained this supremacy until the end of the semester. His ambition was to take a classical course and to enter one of the learned professions; but his father's financial circumstances precluded this, and he made up his mind that he would go to America to seek a business career. He was considering Buenos Ayres, but his father influenced him to come to the United States, particularly as he had a few relatives here.

At the age of seventeen, May 14, 1857, he took passage in a sailing vessel from Genoa to New York; and on July 18 of that year he landed, after a journey of about sixty days. He found work in a toy factory at 123 White street, New York City, at \$1.50 per week, and there worked steadily and with an ambition to rise; but the panic of 1857, one of the most severe America has ever seen, came on, and the factory had to close down. It looked gloomy for the young man, but he finally went to the owner of the factory and was trusted for five or six dollars' worth of toys; and it being holiday time, he sold the toys on the streets, and to his own and everyone else's surprise, he cleared up twenty-five dollars on his week's business. This was his first commercial venture.

After that he apprenticed himself to the proprietor of certain marble works, and served his apprenticeship of two and one half years, securing compensation of board, lodging and twenty-five dollars per year. During all this time he practiced the strictest economy, confining himself to the barest necessities. One purchase he did make, however, during this time was an Italian-English and English-Italian dictionary, which he bought from a second-hand store for fifty cents. This he studied, and it is still in his possession. The Civil War then broke out, putting business everywhere in strained condition; and inasmuch as Mr. Campodonico's employer, a member of the National Guard, who later took part in the Battle of Bull Run, was requisitioned into service, he was once more out of employment. About this time he wrote his father, in Italy, that he would like to go to California; and his father answered that he had his permission to do so. To this the young man replied with some sarcasm, "The fare to San Francisco will cost \$100, and if you will advance that sum, your permission may be sent right along with the money; otherwise, if I must pay it myself, I'll take the permission."

A family by the name of Bagigalupi was living at the mines in California, and coming to California made up his mind to come out and join them. Leaving New York City, September 2, 1861, by steamer "North Star" for Panama, he came across the Isthmus and arrived in San Francisco, by the "Uncle Sam," September 26. There he found a job at his trade, and became a marble engraver and an artist in his line, which is attested by some of the work from his hands still standing in Lone Mountain cemetery in San Francisco—notably the bust of Senator Broderick, chiseled in white marble and mounted on a high shaft in a prominent place in the cemetery; as well as the capitals on the marble columns of the Nicolas Lunning colonnade. In 1868, after having worked as a journeyman for several years, and accumulated some money, with another young man he started in the marble business for himself at 1130 Market street, near the junction of Sixth and Taylor streets, in San Francisco, under the firm name of Campodonico & Co. This business was conducted successfully from 1868 until 1881, when he sold out. Owing to the hard times caused by the Dennis Kearney agitation, business in San Francisco came to a practical standstill, and the years 1877 to 1881 were anything but satisfactory in the marble line.

Having sold out in 1881, he next engaged with Mark J. Fontana & Co., now the Associated Canneries; and there Mr. Campodonico rose to the position of superintendent in the extensive fish and fruit canneries, holding his position there until 1884. Mark J. Fontana & Co., as creditors of an insolvent business in Guadalupe, had to take over a small stock of merchandise; and they having offered this business to their superintendent, he came down in July, 1884, to look over the situation, and in November made arrangements to buy the stock. On December 3, of that year, he brought his family to Guadalupe to live, and has been in business here ever since. As a business man and merchant he has been eminently successful, through square dealing, wide-awake business methods, strict attention to business and ability to accommodate his customers, and has built up one of the largest general merchandising establishments in the Santa Maria valley.

For two years, from 1864 to 1866, Mr. Campodonico was in Bear Valley, Mariposa county, and there became acquainted with Miss Elizabeth Biglar, born in St. Louis, Mo., who crossed the plains to California with her parents, as a child, in 1852. They were married in San Francisco in 1869. Of this union fourteen children have been born, five dying in infancy. The nine who grew to maturity are Lottie, wife of J. B. Acquistapace of Guadalupe; Silvia, who married Martin Luther Smith of Santa Cruz; Frank, who runs his father's ranch at Los Berros in San Luis Obispo County; Stephen, who married Florence Baumgartner, and is his father's chief assistant in running the merchandise store in Guadalupe; Joseph, who is with his brother Frank, on the ranch; Margarite, clerk and bookkeeper in the store; Charles, proprietor of the Commercial Hotel in Guadalupe; Alma, who married Harry Anderson, secretary of the Union Sugar Company at Betteravia; and Victoria, who is the wife of Richard Maretti of Guadalupe. Mr. and Mrs. Campodonico have nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Campodonico cast his first vote for U. S. Grant in 1868, and has been a Republican ever since. He is a member of the County Central Committee of Santa Barbara county, and although adhering closely to party principles, he has found it consistent to vote a mixed ticket at times. He

helped to organize the Bank of Santa Maria, and is still a stockholder. For years he has been the U. S. correspondent of statistics from this section, and for many years, including the time of the building of the two-story frame high school building here in 1896, he has been identified with the school board, but has declined to become a candidate for county office. He has done more for Guadalupe than any other person alive. When Mr. Campodonico came here in 1884, he had for his active competitor H. J. Laughlin, formerly a prominent merchant of the place; now Mr. Campodonico is the veteran business man of the town, and the Campodonico Block, a substantial two-story and basement structure, stands as a monument to its owner. This was the first brick business block erected in the town; and from the clay dug out of the basement were made the bricks of which the walls are constructed. A beautiful residence has also been erected by Mr. Campodonico, and it is complete in all appointments. He is a member of Guadalupe Lodge, No. 237, F. & A. M., is Past Master and the treasurer of the lodge, and served on the building committee during the erection of the Masonic and Odd Fellows hall, a brick structure erected in 1913-14 at a cost of \$15,000.

The career of this venerable merchant is linked inseparably, in fact, with the building up of Guadalupe. During the time he has lived here he has prospered, and besides his town properties he is the owner of a ranch near Orcutt and one near Los Berros in San Luis Obispo County. The new Commercial Hotel building was erected by four of his sons on land donated by their father. During his residence here the railroad has been constructed through from San Francisco to Los Angeles, reaching this town in 1894; the permanent bridge was built in 1895 and the road completed to Santa Barbara in 1898. Prior to that, all supplies were hauled from Port Harford.

Today a gentleman of seventy-seven, looking back over a busy life, Mr. Campodonico is happy in good health, and in the consciousness of a life well spent, and might easily be taken for a man ten years younger. His numerous friends are of one accord in wishing him many additional years in which to enjoy the fruits of a useful life.

**SPENCER C. RECORDS.**—One of the representative citizens and an "old-timer" in the Arroyo Grande valley, Spencer C. Records is a worthy son of his parents, Thomas B. and Mary (Short) Records, of whom extended mention is made on another page of this volume. He was born in Henderson county, Ill., on December 21, 1864, and came west with his parents to this state, settling in the then wilderness along Arroyo Grande creek. He attended the public schools, supplementing this with an elective course in the University of the Pacific and a business course at the Garden City Business College, both in San Jose.

He worked with his father until he was eighteen, and then started out for himself, although he practically lived at home until his parents died. They always encouraged him in every way to get ahead and do for himself, and he has been self-supporting ever since he was a young man. He was reared to the stock business and has followed that line of farming until the present time. He farmed, raised stock, bought and sold cattle, horses and mules, and has prospered.

He made his first purchase of land of one hundred sixty acres, and with that as a nucleus he has added from time to time until he now is the owner



of three thousand acres in the Huasna country, principally grazing land on which he runs beef cattle. He lived on the ranch until 1905, when he bought property in Arroyo Grande and erected a very comfortable residence, where he still resides. Although he is still managing his stock interests himself.

His wife, whom he married in March, 1904, was Miss Lucy Jones, a native daughter born and educated in San Luis Obispo County. Her parents, W. S. and Eduarda (Branch) Jones, were farmers, and Mrs. Records is the next to the oldest in a family of ten children. Mr. and Mrs. Records have three daughters, Mary E., Elna L., and Agnes C. Like his father, Mr. Records is a developer and a promoter of the best interests of the county, and takes an active part in the advancement of his section of the county, which he has seen grow from a sparsely settled region to one of great productiveness and wealth.

**MR. AND MRS. ELIAS P. BRUBAKER.**—One of the ablest is the romance, when one stops to consider it, of many such lives as that of Elias P. Brubaker, spanning, as they do, the marvelous transition periods in the nation when society emerged from the cruder and well-nigh primeval state into advanced conditions of comfort and even luxury. His father was George Brubaker, a native of Pennsylvania, who removed with his family to Ashland, O., built a log house there, and pursued farming until his death, in his sixty-fifth year. Elias Brubaker was born on February 21, 1830, in Pennsylvania, came with his parents, in 1833, to Ohio, and grew up on an Ohio farm, attending school in a pioneer log schoolhouse, with rough slab benches. Mrs. George Brubaker was Miss Elizabeth Burkhardt before her marriage. She was also a native of Pennsylvania and, like her husband, passed away in Ohio. Ten children were born to this hardy couple; but only one, the fifth eldest—the subject of our sketch—has survived until the present.

Having finished with the local school, Elias went to the Hayesville Academy, and later attended the State University at Delaware, O., after which he began to teach. He belonged, however, to just that adventurous class to whom the great California gold excitement made its strongest appeal, and it was not long, therefore, before he was traveling to the Coast, by way of Panama. He reached the Isthmus in April, 1856, during the "Panama Riots," and landed from the "John L. Stevens" at San Francisco in May of that year. Arrived in California, he made his way to Placerville and the Indian Diggings; but perceiving the demand for other than miners, he soon gave up his search for gold, and commenced teaching school instead.

Three years later, on April 2, 1859, Elias Brubaker was married at the Indian Diggings to Miss Diantha Rodgers, and was thereby connected with a pioneer family of more than ordinary interest. Miss Rodgers was born on Pictou Island, Nova Scotia, the daughter of Benjamin and Jessie (Campbell) Rodgers, the former a native of Wales, and the latter of the Island of Mull, off the coast of Scotland. Her father was originally a blacksmith who emigrated to America and Nova Scotia, where he married, and then removed to Galena, Ill.—destined to be famous as the town in which Ulysses S. Grant clerked in a country store—where he built and for three years ran a horse ferry across the Mississippi. In 1852 he sold out his business, and the following year, with his wife and four children, crossed the plains to California in a train of oxen and wagons. The party traveled by way of Des





*E. P. Brubaker*



*Diantha R. Brubaker*



Moines, at that time a very small place; and here was a rope ferry that had become broken, thus causing great inconvenience. Being a clever mechanic, Benjamin Rodgers quickly repaired the damage by splicing the cable. Up the River Platte and on to Laramie and Salt Lake the pioneers proceeded; and from there they traveled over the Sierras to California, arriving in Hangtown, October 15, 1853, just six months to a day from the time when they set out.

On the way, an accident occurred which threatened for a while dire disaster to Benjamin Rodgers and his family. He was of a nervous temperament, and when crossing a ford or similar place, was always inclined to rush ahead. Once he drove into a river, intending to make for the other side; but owing to the heavy current, his wagon upset, and all the hard-tack and most of the flour loaded upon the vehicle were washed away. The family, therefore, ran short, a situation the more serious because the emigrants were without much cash; but a stranger passing that way tendered the unfortunates twenty dollars, suggesting that the money could be returned when the borrower had reached his destination and had begun to earn. Needless to say, the promise thus evoked, through an incident that well shows how generally men trusted each other in those days, was sacredly kept.

For two years Benjamin Rodgers mined at Hangtown, and then he and his family moved to Indian Diggings, and in 1858 located near Firebaugh, Merced county. He found the district too sparsely settled, however, and so removed to a ranch near Stockton, where he lost his wife. Finally, in 1862, on account of the big flood, he left that swampy country for Redwood City, where he died.

To return to the fortunes of young Miss Rodgers, we find her attending school in various places, and finally re-opening her books, with probably more interest and liking for study, in the school at Indian Diggings, kept by Mr. Brubaker; and there, after a year's acquaintance, the friendship between her and the schoolmaster ripened into love and—"so they were married." This did not prevent Mr. Brubaker from teaching another eight years at the diggings, and in Fiddletown, now Goleta, after which he went to Walnut Grove, where he taught six years more. During the time of his pedagogical work he bought acreage on Staten Island, where he attempted, with others, to reclaim land; but the same flood, that of 1862, washed away all levees, and the work of the enterprising settlers was lost.

In 1867, Mr. and Mrs. Brubaker removed to Lower Lake, Lake county, where he engaged for five years in cattle-raising; and then he left the state to farm in Washington Territory, from which he returned to California at his first opportunity to sell. A winter was passed at Pleasanton, then a sojourn was made in Sonoma county and the great forests of Mendocino, and after that Mr. Brubaker bought a ranch near Cloverdale, which he so improved that the Swiss-Italian colony was glad to secure it for their headquarters at a handsome figure. Financially reinforced, Mr. and Mrs. Brubaker and family made a trip to Florida, looked in at the New Orleans Exposition, and visited many other points of interest in the South; and on their return to California they spent a year at Santa Clara, and then, in 1887, came to San Luis Obispo County, where they located on the ranch they at present own, being among the first settlers in the district now known as Shandon. They liked the place so well that they paid two thousand dollars

for one hundred acres of school land, later pre-empting one hundred sixty acres a mile and a half away, and taking a hundred sixty acres of timber culture at the back of their ranch. As a result, they now own four hundred forty acres of splendid land, on which they have made all needed improvements, building barns, sinking wells, and otherwise equipping everything in a first-class manner. Their holdings include one hundred twenty acres of bottom land, suitable for alfalfa cultivation, and a fine family orchard. They raise grain and stock; and having accomplished all by means of their own labor and sacrifice, they owe no man a dollar. They have two children: Lloyd, a blacksmith, but now farming in Humboldt county; and Ray P., a merchant at Hollister.

A stockholder, from its organization, in the Farmers' Alliance Business Association, which has done so much for grain-raisers in this vicinity, Mr. Brubaker, with true public-spiritedness, also helped build the mill at San Miguel; but as it later did not prove a financial success, he surrendered his stock to the company. Once a devoted Republican, and still having a lively interest in all political affairs, he is now an equally loyal adherent of the Democratic party.

Mr. and Mrs. Brubaker are devotedly interested in religious activities. They helped to establish and build the Methodist Episcopal Church at Shandon, and Mr. Brubaker has been a trustee of the congregation ever since; while at different times both husband and wife have been superintendent of the Sunday school. In fraternal circles, Mr. Brubaker has long been popular as a member of the Odd Fellows.

**TAYLOR S. MELCHIOR.**—What those of a previous generation in America have suffered in order that we might enjoy the good things of today in the most glorious country upon the earth, is told again in the annals of the family of Taylor S. Melchior, one of the substantial farmers living near Paso Robles. The second eldest of three children born to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Melchior near De Kalb, Crawford county, Ohio, he came to California in the late nineties. His father was born in Pennsylvania, and had settled in Ohio as a carpenter and builder when the Civil War and the defense of his country called him from his peaceful vocation.

At the first tap in 1861, Jacob Melchior joined Company H, 64th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and served with honor for three years until, in 1864, he was captured and sent to Andersonville, where he died. A souvenir of this heart-sickening experience Taylor Melchior possesses in that precious legacy, his father's honorable discharge. His mother, who, before her marriage, was Miss Margaret Pensinger, was born in Pennsylvania and died in 1886 in Ohio. One of the sons, named Charles, is at Toledo, Ohio, where he is proprietor of the Tri-State Business College; another son, Jacob, is a horticulturist at Redlands.

After attending the public school, Taylor Melchior took a course of study at the Fostoria Normal. He learned drain-tile making and built a factory near Tiro, Ohio. From 1883 to 1899 he was engaged in the manufacture of drain-tile in sizes from 2½ to 12 inches, and for his necessary output he built a large factory. At Shelby, Ohio, he married an Ohioan, Miss Emma Champion. Three children—Vinton, who is in the automobile business at Paso Robles; Hazel, now Mrs. Grove, residing at Seattle; and Orville, living at ... ..

In 1890, Mr. Melchior sold out, and, like so many others, turned his face westward; nor did he stop until he had reached Santa Paula, California. Afterwards, Mr. Melchior was at Oxnard for a year, employed in the beet sugar factory; and then he went into the service of the Ventura County Power Co. as foreman of the gas and water department of the Oxnard district. This engagement lasted eleven years and encouraged Mr. Melchior to build a residence there. Another fair California town, however, was to make a still stronger appeal, and in 1912 he sold everything and moved to Paso Robles. Here he bought forty acres, splendidly situated on the state highway, three and a half miles north of Paso Robles; and these he has since devoted to horticulture and the raising of poultry. Incubators, brooders and other scientific and modern apparatus needed in the conduct of the business have been installed on his ranch by Mr. Melchior. In this enterprise he has been successful, and ships large quantities of eggs.

Mr. Melchior has served for three years as a school trustee in San Marcos district. Politically, he is a Republican; fraternally, he is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

**JAMES LERTORA.**—James Lertora is one of the sons of Italy who has made good in the New World, and who has the confidence and respect of business men both in San Francisco and in San Jose, where he worked at his trade from 1876 to 1880, and in the Santa Maria valley, where he has been engaged in business ever since. He first came to Guadalupe, as the manager of a mercantile establishment for M. J. Fontana. He remained in this position three and one-half years, resigning his position, in 1884, for the purpose of coming to Santa Maria and engaging in business for himself. He has met with well-merited success here, has accumulated a competency and has given support to all matters pertaining to the improvement and advancement of his home city.

But it is as a man and fellow citizen that Mr. Lertora has ingratiated himself with the community, and he numbers among his friends hundreds of the best citizens of the Santa Maria valley. His pride in the upbuilding of the community is very real, while his broad and sympathetic humanitarian instincts cannot fail to cement strong friendships among his fellow citizens. He was born in Italy, December 15, 1850, and came from an old Genoese family. Owing to the prolonged illness which finally resulted in the death of the father, the family was left in very straitened circumstances. The mother, with five children, of whom James was the youngest, then a child of but three years, nobly set about to make the best of what to those less determined might have seemed an impossible situation. She determined to come to America. The three oldest children were left behind in Italy, while the mother, with her youngest girl and boy, set sail for New York, where they landed in 1854.

Through self-denial and hard work, they managed to live, and in about three years were joined by the three older brothers and sisters. They all struggled together for an existence. The mother's frugality and wise management served to keep the family together, while James laid the foundation for his subsequent successful business career by selling newspapers and peddling on the streets of New York City. This bitter experience has no doubt served to broaden his sympathies for mankind. As he grew older, he entered upon life's work with a zest, and he was soon a hopeful and self-respecting young



man. He has had various occupations, but for sixteen years put in most of his time in gun and chair factories. In 1876, he came to California, where he has made a success.

Mr. Lertora is the father of two children, both of whom reside in New York. His wife died several years ago. Socially, Mr. Lertora is prominent, being a member of several lodges in Santa Maria. He enjoys the friendship of a large number of citizens of the Santa Maria valley, as well as of San Francisco, and is regarded as a man of strict business integrity.

**JOHN THORNBURG.**—The record of the Thornburg family in Santa Maria valley is typical of the county's growth and development. Before any attempt had been made to cultivate the land or build up villages, this family settled here. John Thornburg and a twin brother, Henry, were natives of New Market, Jefferson county, Tenn., born in 1809, sons of Henry Thornburgh, of Scotch-Irish birth. John received his education in the public schools and at Union College in Randolph county, Ind., and was married there to Elizabeth Hunt, a native of Ohio. He was a saddler by trade and built a tannery on his farm in Indiana. His wife died at the age of thirty-two, the mother of ten children. Wilson, a merchant, lived and died in Hagerstown, Ind.; James Madison, a veteran of the Civil War, pioneer citizen of the Santa Maria valley and a director of the Santa Maria Bank, died July 22, 1916, aged eighty-one years, having been married three times; Henry, a saddler by trade, was a member of the Thirty-ninth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and died while in the army; Sophie Butler, the widow of Thomas Allen Jones, is living in Santa Maria; Jesse H., a Civil War veteran, farmed in Wayne county, Ind., and died in Santa Maria; Joseph, also a Civil War veteran and a farmer, died unmarried in the Santa Maria valley; Larkin died in Indiana, at the age of fifteen years; Emma died in girlhood, and two children died in infancy.

John Thornburg was descended from Irish and German forefathers. The original Irish spelling of the name ended with an "h." He married the second time, in Indiana, Mrs. Minerva Maulsby, daughter of Marshall Maulsby, but had no children by this marriage. In 1862, Mr. Thornburg came west to Iowa, settled in Redfield and erected a large woolen mill, and engaged extensively in manufacturing woolen goods until 1869, when he came to California. He was a great sufferer with asthma and found that the climate of the valley in the northern part of Santa Barbara county agreed with him better than in parts of Ventura county, where he was looking about in search of relief.

When he left Iowa he had an idea that he had but a few years yet to live, and concluded he would spend them in a climate where he might get relief from his disease. He quit his trade of saddler and manufacturer, bought a pre-emption claim of one hundred sixty acres, and began farming in California. He was a man of broad and liberal ideas, and it was he who proposed the 120-foot width of the two streets now called Main and Broadway in Santa Maria, then known as Central City. He laid out Thornburg's addition to the city, and all his deeds carried a clause against the sale of alcoholic liquors. He was a leading spirit in the Grange movement, and was one of the four men who started the Grange store. He donated the lot for the first Methodist Church erected in the town, which was erected as a union church, he being a member of the Christian denomination here, although he



*John Thornburg*



was born a Quaker, and was reared in that belief and had a birthright in the Quaker Church in the East.

Mr. Thornburg and four others laid out Central City, and it was he who gave to the town its present name, when they sought to have a post-office established and it was learned that there was already another place of the name proposed. He was familiarly called "Uncle John" by many of the older people, and "Grandpa Thornburg" by the younger element. He was generous to a fault, popular, kind-hearted and public-spirited. He died December 12, 1892, and at his passing, after having lived to enjoy to the full a well-rounded life, Santa Barbara county and the Santa Maria valley lost one of their most prominent and enterprising men and leading spirits, and a loyal and progressive citizen.

**JOSEPH BENJAMIN DAVIS.**—The interest which attaches to the biography of California pioneers is not that of mere curiosity; it is, rather, an expression of gratitude which their fellow-citizens feel towards those fore-runners of civilization who have done so much to make both habitable and attractive this glorious section of the Far West. Not only as a pioneer of the state, but also as one of the early residents of San Miguel and vicinity, Joseph Benjamin Davis, the well-known farmer and stockman, enjoys a high position among the people of his town and county. In the twilight of his busy and eventful life, he can review a varied past without remorse, and look confidently forward toward the future. His grandfather was Charles Davis, a native of England, while his grandmother was born in Scotland. His father, George Davis, on the other hand, first saw the light of day in New York City, in the remote year of 1816. He came West later as a trapper in the employ of the Hudson Bay Company, for whom he served under Kit Carson, obtaining from the famous veteran most valuable insight into Indian character and frontier life. In one of his expeditions which won for himself some reputation as a good scout, he came to California in the still dormant period of 1838.

Four years later George Davis made a trip through Oregon, completing the latter part of his journey on horseback; and there he met Elecia Sumner, who was born on February 25, 1830, in Mississippi, came as a child to Arkansas, and then crossed the plains to Oregon in 1842 with her parents, Owen and Lucy (Preston) Sumner. An attachment sprang up between the young people, and George Davis journeyed with the Sumner family south in 1843, proceeding through Oregon and northern California, and arriving at Fort Sutter in July; and there, on the seventeenth of the month, George Davis and Elecia Sumner were married by Captain Sutter himself. General John Bidwell, who used to be in charge of Bodega and Fort Ross, and also of General Sutter's Feather River possessions, was a witness to the marriage. It is stated on good authority that they were the first American couple married in California. About three months after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Davis moved to Yerba Buena, now San Francisco, where they took up their residence at the foot of Telegraph Hill, owning the lot on which the Bell Union Theater once stood. Seven months later they returned to Sacramento Valley, and for three years resided in different localities.

At the breaking out of the Mexican War in California, George Davis brought his family to San Francisco, where he left them in order that he might be free to hurry south with a company of volunteers who had armed

themselves for the great struggle. At Rinconada, however, thirteen of the band were captured and held as prisoners for two weeks; and as he was one of those who were paroled, he returned to San Francisco. This nerve-testing experience did not prevent him from later serving as a scout; and in that capacity he did good service for General Fremont himself, piloting the intrepid explorer through many a dangerous pass. A nephew of George Davis, John Hames, was also in the war, and helped raise the first American flag that flew to the breeze at Monterey.

In 1847, the family moved to Oregon and resided there until the gold excitement in California, when they returned to Sacramento county, and lived for a time on the Cosumnes river, after which they went to Rio Seco, probably in the vicinity of what is now Galt, halfway between Sacramento and Stockton; and there they kept a hotel for four years. In 1854, they removed to Santa Cruz, remaining until 1860.

In the spring of 1860 George Davis moved into Monterey county, located on San Antonio creek, and went into the sheep business. He owned a ranch, which he subsequently sold to R. G. Flint. In 1870, he shifted to the neighborhood of San Miguel, and continued the raising of sheep, ranching partly in southern Monterey county and partly in the northern section of San Luis Obispo. He picked out a homestead and pre-empted land, having three hundred twenty acres. He also bought more land at other places for his sheep camps, distributing his flocks on the different ranges, running them into the San Joaquin Valley and pasturing them on the side of the Sierra Nevadas. His flocks were large, embracing, all in all, not less than eleven to twelve thousand head; and to care for these he had half a dozen or more experienced herders. In the dry year of 1877, when it was almost impossible to get water or satisfactory pasture for animals, George Davis was hard hit; but he pegged away pluckily at the sheep-raising enterprise, and in the end enjoyed considerable success. In January, 1891, at the age of seventy-five years, and at the completion of a life of more than ordinary ups and downs, this worthy pioneer passed to his rest and reward. Not the least interesting item to his credit was his encouragement of education, for he helped build the first schoolhouse at San Miguel. In 1913, at the age of eighty-three, Mrs. George Davis followed her husband to the grave.

Thirteen children were born in the Davis family, and eight of these grew to maturity. David was born in Oregon in 1847, but was brought up in California. He pre-empted land in the Indian Valley, had a flourishing stock business, and now lives retired, making his home with the Davis Bros. Eliza, who became Mrs. Azbell, died in the same vale. Joseph, farmer and member of the firm of Davis Bros., lives at San Miguel; and Buchanan is his partner. Mary, Mrs. Still, is a stock-raiser near the old Davis home. Annie has become Mrs. R. G. Flint, of San Luis Obispo. Charles resides at San Miguel; and Elecia makes her home with her brothers, Joseph and Buchanan.

Joseph B. Davis was born in Sacramento on March 15, 1852, but from his eighth year he was reared in the vicinity of San Miguel. At that time there were no public schools in that neighborhood, and what formal instruction Joseph enjoyed was imparted to him by private teachers. One of these, he recalls, was Prof. Frank Seymour, an Englishman, while another teacher whom he remembers was an Irishman by the name of Frank McKay, a graduate of Dublin. While yet a lad, Joseph was initiated into the stock

and cattle business, and with his superiors rode the range; and well it was that he had such a practical experience with life in the open, for in the dry year of 1877 he was given an opportunity to show the stuff that was in him. Then Joseph and Buchanan Davis took a band of three thousand sheep into the San Joaquin valley and over the Sierra Mountains in search of green feed, nor did they stop until they reached the Inyo district and had crossed into Mono county. Again they crossed the mountains on their return to San Joaquin, and in January, 1878, they returned to the coast. Up to this time several of the Davis brothers were in the sheep business together.

In 1880, Joseph and Buchanan started in the sheep and cattle business for themselves, on a claim that had been pre-empted about 1874, the rights of the original claimant having been purchased. They did the usual cleaning up and made the needed improvements, and Davis Bros., as the new firm was called, soon came to have a very substantial standing. Joseph took a homestead on the adjoining hills, and so did Buchanan, and soon they had some six hundred forty acres, including their pre-emption claims. They did more than this, however, for they laid hold of some favorable land east of San Miguel, where there were good springs, and before many months they had four to five thousand sheep feeding on the range. Drought bothered them, too, but quick, decisive moves prevented catastrophe. They had about a hundred fifty head of cattle on the home ranch, and their brand was and is the square and compass. Later, they disposed of this ranch, and for some years they farmed on the Nacimiento, and there raised horses and mules.

In 1909, the brothers leased the present place, the Corriente Rancho, of twelve hundred eighty acres, and engaged in the raising of grain, cattle and horses. They found it profitable to add to this area, and continued their expansion until they were leasing twenty-two hundred acres. Somewhat more than a third of this great area was given to grain, to farm which they employed three eight-horse teams. Then they went in for breeding Durham cattle and Percheron-Norman horses. In the meantime, Mr. Davis has found time to keep in touch with the social world. He is a past president, and now treasurer, of San Miguel Parlor, No. 150, Native Sons of the Golden West. For ten years he has been trustee of the San Miguel school district, and part of the time served as its clerk. As a Democrat, he is a member of the county central committee, and has been a delegate to both county and congressional conventions. At times he has been a member of the grand jury.

His partner in his farming operations, Buchanan Davis, was born near Santa Cruz in 1857, was reared on the ranch near San Miguel, and was early associated with his brother Joseph in farming and stock-raising. He, too, is a member of the same parlor of Native Sons, and a past president.

Charles Davis, another brother, who resides in San Miguel, was born near what is now Bradley, on February 21, 1864, and from his thirteenth year has had more or less to do with sheep and cattle. In the middle eighties, he located at San Miguel, and there he has been in business ever since. He owns a business building and a pool hall. He was married to Mrs. Ella Chalmers, a native of Watsonville, and by her he has had three children: Irvyn, Irma and Zoe. He belongs to the Eagles, the Redmen and the Native Sons.

**GEORGE H. ANDREWS.**—A worthy son of a worthy father, George H. Andrews was born in San Luis Obispo on April 6, 1862. He received his early education in the public schools of this city, and when but a boy lent most valuable assistance to his father in the management of his cattle and sheep interests. When only fifteen years old he spent the entire dry year in looking after the sheep on the Santa Lucia range; and by his good management he brought through in safety some four thousand head, which commanded a good price in the market when there were no others fit for sale. He continued to look after the stock interests until early manhood, gradually acquiring the experience so valuable to him in later life. He later purchased some three hundred and fifteen acres of fine land near San Luis Obispo, and farmed it for a while himself. Afterwards, he leased out the place, which he is gradually improving by planting it to fruit.

When his father retired from business, George H. Andrews took the position of cashier of the Andrews Banking Company and remained in that responsible position until the bank was sold to the Commercial Bank in 1913. Upon the death of his father in 1914, in January, he became executor of the large estate, gave the business his entire attention and faithfully performed every duty without favor to any individual.

He is a man of quiet force, respected by his fellow citizens, by whom he was elected a member of the city council in 1913, for a term of four years. He is a firm believer in the future of San Luis Obispo. He believes that she now offers greater opportunities than ever before in her history, and that it is the duty of every public-spirited citizen to aid in all movements that have for their object the advancement of the community. Mr. Andrews is also a staunch friend of education and favors all endeavors that will raise the standard of the schools of the city and county. He has grown with the county, has been a part of its growth and development, and both makes and retains friends wherever he is known.

In August, 1891, George H. Andrews was united in marriage with Miss Mary Alethia Graves, a native of Louisiana; and five children have blessed their union. John Pinckney, who is employed by the Standard Oil Company, married Miss Dobby Jensen, of Idaho, and they have one son, John Pinckney Andrews, III; G. Winfield attends the Agricultural College at Corvallis, Ore.; Marvin and Ewart are students in the State Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo; and a daughter, Marjorie, is now attending the public school.

Mr. Andrews is a Mason and a Woodman of the World.

**DAVID THALER.**—Whatever of success has been achieved by Mr. Thaler during his residence in California may be attributed to his own capable judgment and industry. He was born in Germany, March 10, 1840, and received but a few years of schooling, as his parents both died when he was quite small. In 1857, he started for the New World, seeking to better his condition and to win a fortune. His first employment, after arriving in the United States, was in a butcher shop in Cleveland, O. There he stayed two years, going from there to Cincinnati, where he was working when the Civil War broke out. Like many of his countrymen who sought homes in the United States, he enlisted for service, being enrolled on April 22, 1861, in Company K, Ninth Ohio Infantry, Third Brigade, Second Division of the Fourteenth Army Corps, under General McClellan, and was one of the famous



*Geo. A. Anderson*





"minute men." He was discharged on May 26, 1861, and at once was sworn in again for three years in the same company and regiment; and after his term of service expired he veteranized, and his company was attached to the Fourth Ohio Cavalry, under General Thomas. After a service of four years, Mr. Thaler was mustered out at Camp Dennison, Ohio. During his service in the army he participated in the battles of Shiloh, Murfreesboro, Nashville, Franklin, Mills Springs, Peach Mountain, Chickamauga, Mission Ridge, and in many skirmishes. After being mustered out, he joined the regular army by enlisting in Company L, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, Colonel Emery commanding, and served five years, being stationed at Forts Hays, McDowell and McPherson, and one year at Camp Grant, Ariz. He was discharged in 1872. While in the regular service he took part in the famous Indian battle at Summit Springs, Wyo. "Buffalo Bill" (William Cody) was a scout in Mr. Thaler's regiment, and they became very warm friends.

In 1873, having traveled about the country for a time, Mr. Thaler arrived in San Luis Obispo County, where he has since resided. He was engaged in various enterprises. He drove a freight team from the city to Port San Luis in early days, was employed by the Sandercock Transfer Company for a time, conducted the Fulton Meat Market, was steward at the county hospital, served on the police force for eight years, and then was janitor of the Court school for six years, when he retired to private life to enjoy a well-earned rest. On his retirement, the teachers presented him with a beautiful Odd Fellows gold watch charm. He joined that organization in 1879, and has passed all the chairs of the order, serving as Warden for twenty-six years. He is a member and for the past eight years has been Commander of Fred Steele Post, No. 70, G. A. R. After becoming a resident of California, Mr. Thaler was united in marriage with Hannah Blake, who was a native of this state, born in Napa. Mr. and Mrs. Thaler are the parents of three children: a daughter, Mrs. Josephine M. Johnson; and two sons, Frank A. and Frederick.

**JAMES M. BROWN.**—The ranks of the brave defenders of the Union are rapidly thinning. Among those who, after the war, bore the "brunt of the battle" in commercial circles, and have left their imprint on the community, no one was more favorably known than J. M. Brown, more familiarly known as "Brown, the Bee Man," of San Luis Obispo. He was born near Middlebury, in Addison county, Vermont, on February 14, 1835. When he was but eighteen months old, his parents moved to Licking County, Ohio, and from there, in 1851, to Cumberland County, Illinois. Young Brown attended the common schools in pursuit of an education, and worked on his father's farm. Shortly after the breaking out of the Civil War, in 1861, he enlisted in Company B, Seventh Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He participated in the battles of Fort Henry, Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, and many skirmishes. He was appointed Second Lieutenant, Company F, 111th U. S. Colored Infantry, and was later promoted to First Lieutenant, Company D, serving until the close of the war. The captain of the company being on the sick list, Lieutenant Brown took command as acting Captain, and participated in the Battle of Sulphur Trestle, Alabama. He was taken prisoner by General Forrest on the surrender of the regiment, and was later exchanged. He was later made Brigade Quartermaster under General Thomas, and served three

months at Nashville; then he was detailed to special duty in Alabama, gathering up government property.

He refused a captain's commission in the regular army after the close of the war, and returned to his old home in Carlisle, Ill. He farmed for a time there; then returned to Licking County, O.; from there went back to Crawford County, Ill.; thence to southwestern Missouri; and, in 1893, to San Luis Obispo County, Cal., where he purchased one hundred sixty acres of land in See cañon. He set out fifty acres of orchard, having the best in the county. Here, for eighteen years, he lived in the enjoyment of the climate of the golden West, and then, in 1909, retired to San Luis Obispo.

From boyhood Mr. Brown was interested in the bee industry, watching the bees gather honey from the flowers, and gradually becoming an expert as an apiarist. While living in Ohio he owned one hundred stands, which he shipped to Crawford County, Ill., when he removed to that place. He visited some of the largest bee farms in this country and acquired many valuable ideas, and likewise attended the Bee Growers' Convention that was held in Chicago, and various other gatherings of the kind, and eventually became an authority on bee culture. He carried on a very successful apiary in See cañon, and from a hundred seventy-three stands he gathered and marketed in one year fourteen tons of honey. He later increased his colony to two hundred stands.

Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Annetta Sharp, a native of Illinois. She died in 1873, leaving one daughter, Mrs. Rose Kahl, who passed away September 9, 1916, mourned by two daughters, by a former marriage—Gertrude, the wife of Fred Johnson, and Miss Mabel Mann. Mr. Brown was a member of Fred Steele Post No. 70, G. A. R., in San Luis Obispo. After becoming a resident of San Luis Obispo County no man ever had the interests of the county more at heart than Mr. Brown; and he liberally supported, as far as he was able, all movements that had for their object the betterment of the community.

Mr. Brown answered the final roll call January 10, 1917. He laid his glasses and book on a table and put his coat on a chair, and was found lying on his bed, with a peaceful smile on his face, where he had passed quietly away.

**JUDGE GORDON G. WALKER.**—Born at Marshall, Saline County, Mo., on December 4, 1856, Judge Gordon G. Walker was the grandson of Samuel Walker, a planter, and the son of Hiram S. Walker, who was interested in agriculture. The grandfather, born in Tennessee, had removed to Missouri, first to Lafayette County and then to Saline County, adjoining. From Missouri, in 1856, Hiram Walker made his first trip to Texas. After returning to Missouri for a time, he again took up his residence in the Lone Star State, where he died. The mother, Miss Mary M. Gordon before her marriage, was born in Kentucky, her mother having been a Miss Boyd, a sister of Speaker Boyd of the Kentucky State Assembly. The Walkers had four boys and four girls, two of the latter being now deceased. Gordon Walker was fourth in order of birth. He was educated in the public schools of Missouri, and was reared on a Missouri farm; and by 1875 he was ready for emigration to San Saba County, Texas, where he became the owner of a ranch on Buffalo Creek and began to engage in the cattle business, in time acquiring the J. E. Spring Ranch, whose cattle and sheep were famous under the U-bar brand.

In 1903, he sold his Texas ranch and stock and moved to California. He lived for a while at Richmond; and then came to Santa Margarita. He engaged in mining and came to own some fine mining property in the Huasna country, San Luis Obispo County, and elsewhere. Quartz and placer mines were located by him. He prospected in Death Valley, and while there, amid the burning sands, found no less than three skeletons of those who had perished. After a wide experience with localities, the Judge believes emphatically in San Luis Obispo County, contending that it is one of the best sections in California for minerals, and that its mining and agricultural resources have as yet scarcely been touched.

While he was a resident in Texas, Judge Walker, as an officer of the law, did much to rid the young state of lawless bandits, and to establish order and security. First he was a constable, then a deputy sheriff, and finally a deputy United States marshal, as well as a member of the Texas Rangers. Some of the worst desperadoes with whom he had to do were the Pitts-Yeager gang of counterfeiterers. He arrested Pitts and his companion at Baby Head, just across the Llano County line, and turned them over to an officer. The counterfeiterers escaped, however, and Walker led the chase which resulted in their recapture. They were then tried and sentenced to ninety-nine years at Chester, Illinois. Walker told Hal Goslin (the United States marshal), who was taking the two north to Chester, to watch out or they would kill him and again escape; and sure enough, the events of the next few hours showed how clear was the Judge's foresight. Pitts and Yeager were handcuffed together, and were in charge of the marshal and his deputy, Manning; but Pitts' wife and grandmother, and Yeager's sister, were allowed to make the journey with them in the same coach. The women managed to pass each one a revolver, and in less time than it takes to tell it, Goslin was shot dead and the deputy was wounded. The latter, however, fought back and wounded both Pitts and Yeager, though both escaped from the train. Pitts was found dead fifty yards from the railroad. Yeager tore the handcuff from the dead man's hand and made his escape. As soon as word reached Judge Walker, he started immediately in pursuit; and by nine o'clock the next morning he had the wounded desperado.

So plucky and so persistent was Walker in his running down evil-doers that he soon became a terror to them, especially to horse and cattle thieves. He was naturally a good shot from boyhood; and in the great open, where the man who drew first was king, he became still more expert. He knew, too, as a progressive citizen, that the bad element must first be conquered before the country could be made habitable, so as to attract outsiders; and this spurred him forward even at much personal risk. On one occasion, he and a comrade, C. D. Farris, pursued fifteen outlaws, and they captured or killed a dozen of them. In the end he came to feel, whenever he read or heard of a criminal loose in the neighborhood, that he must do his part in apprehending the undesirable. This devotion to what he considered a paramount duty is shown in his conduct after becoming a resident of California. Alberto Pena, the slayer of Patrolman Rouse, of Fresno, with several others, had escaped and was supposed to be headed toward the coast; but it so happened that when he alighted from the train at Santa Margarita and started up the track, Judge Walker's son, Clinton, recognized him from portraits published

in the newspapers, and hurried home to tell his father. This was quite enough for the indignant and doughty Judge, who grabbed his gun, said good-bye to his wife, and hurried out of the house. A neighbor was passing in his automobile, and learning that the Judge intended to get a locomotive to take him up the track, he placed his car at the Judge's disposal. It was not long before they overtook the fugitive, who was also being pursued by Police Detective Castner, from Fresno; and just as Pena drew his revolver against the officers, the Judge, with the quickness that characterized his former years, shot him dead.

While in Missouri, Gordon Walker was married to Miss Amanda B. Clinton, a native of Vernon County, Missouri. Through her he became the father of eight children: Shelby, a cattleman of Texas; Beula, now Mrs. Hall of that state; Nellie, who became Mrs. Deevers, of Tehachapi; Mary, now Mrs. Degman, of Taft; Hiram, with an oil company at Coalinga; Walter, representing the Standard Oil Company at Taft; Leonard, a driller in the Coalinga oil fields; and Clinton, baggage agent for the S. P. R. R. at Santa Margarita. Each of these promising children has been trained according to the teachings of the Christian Church. Always active in social life, the Judge and his wife participate in the programs of the Knights of Pythias and the I. O. O. F. Mrs. Walker was appointed postmaster of Santa Margarita in 1913. A county commissioner in Texas, Judge Walker was also appointed, in 1915, by the San Luis Obispo County supervisors, a member of the advisory board having in charge the readjustment of land values for county assessments. A personal and lifelong friend of the present Postmaster-General, Albert Sidney Burleson, he has had much to do with the administration appointments in this section of the state.

**JOSEPH MAINO.**—Many of the sons of Italy who have emigrated to the United States have won recognition for themselves in their chosen fields of endeavor, and among them is Joseph Maino, one of the leading contractors and builders of San Luis Obispo and vicinity.

He was born in Domodossola, province of Novara, Italy, on April 3, 1850. He received his schooling in his native place, and there learned the carpenter and builder's trade, working up from one position of responsibility to another until he became for a number of years superintendent of government construction. During this time he travelled all over Europe and Africa. In 1877 he came to the United States, where he thought better opportunity for advancement was offered energetic young men. He first located in Eureka, Nev., and there, for two years, was employed in timbering the Newark Valley mine. In 1879 he came to the Coast and stopped in San Francisco, but being in ill health he decided to take a sea voyage, and journeyed to China, Japan, South America and back to San Francisco, extending his voyage over a period of six months. During this time he recovered his health, and worked as ship carpenter. He was then employed by Mr. Clair to go to Santa Barbara and remodel a schooner at Santa Cruz island. The work completed, he went to Los Alamos, and thence to San Luis Obispo, where he arrived in 1881; and here he has since resided, making this city the scene of his activities. He is the city's pioneer builder, having erected nearly one-third of the buildings in the town, and has paid the lumber companies over \$500,000 for building material. Among some of the more important buildings erected by Mr. Maino are the county hospital, the public library, the polytechnic school, and various busi-





*A R Hathway*

ness blocks and residences. He erected the first school building in Santa Margarita, the church at Cayucos and other structures in various parts of the county.

Mr. Maino has been twice married. His first wife was Mary Femminis, a native of Italy. Their children are: Mrs. Mary Bizzini; James J., a contractor in San Luis Obispo; Mrs. Lucy Kern; Charles, of San Luis Obispo; Theodore, also a contractor; and Mrs. Julia des Grange. Mr. Maino has nine grandchildren. His present wife was Mrs. Angela Angellini, also a native of Italy, but for more than forty years a resident of California.

**AMOS RILEY HATHWAY.** The name Hathway is of English origin, but Amos R. Hathway's life found its beginning in the blue grass region of Kentucky, Owensboro being the place of his birth, which occurred on September 26, 1829. There, under the spiritual guidance of a wonderful mother, he laid the foundation of a sterling character, and his life was an inspiration to those who knew him best. His father, John Hathway, was a native of Maine, born in the year 1795. When John Hathway's father passed away, the boy John swam the Ohio river with his clothes on his head, determined to aid his widowed mother. John Hathway married Martha Riley, a Kentuckian by birth. His ambition led him to become a man of education, and his natural ability won for him a fortune.

Amos R., the second child of a family of seven, inherited rare qualities. He was dubbed "Luck" by his young friends, who claimed that Dame Fortune always smiled upon him; but it was through determination and perseverance that he succeeded. He was an apt and industrious student, retiring at 10 P. M. and rising at three o'clock the next morning to study. He mastered Latin so thoroughly that he became able to converse in that tongue. After leaving school, he taught for a time in his home county. He also served as a deputy in the office of county clerk. Later, under Dr. Wilson of Kentucky, he took up the study of medicine. Too close application to study, however, impaired his health, and he was advised by his physician to seek another climate; whereupon he and his younger brother John decided to make the long journey to California.

In 1852, therefore, the two young men hitched up a mule team and left family and friends behind. The journey was a perilous one. Mr. Hathway suffered from cholera, and his brother John was later taken with mountain fever and was hauled for eight hundred miles upon his bed, but finally recovered.

They made their first stop at Marysville, where they entered into business. Mr. Hathway was given charge of a ranch belonging to Dr. Wilkins, who became his lifelong friend. Dr. Wilkins saw and appreciated Mr. Hathway's rare qualities of mind and endeavored to persuade the latter to enter into partnership with him in San Francisco, and together with him establish a sanitarium; but for his health's sake Mr. Hathway could not consider the proposition, and so he went to Watsonville and farmed successfully there. He was made school superintendent and also Sunday school superintendent. He was later tendered a county office; but this he declined. He had promised his mother that at the expiration of four years he would return to her, and he could not disappoint her.

He returned to Kentucky via Panama and New Orleans, and was married, on June 16, 1857, to Miss Ellen Riley, the daughter of Judge Amos



Riley of New Madrid, Mo., a man famed for his benevolence. That same year the young couple went to Hathway, Tenn., named for Mr. Hathway, and there he followed farming, practiced medicine and conducted a wood-yard, supplying the steamers that plied the river with several thousand cords of wood per year until the close of the Civil War, in which he himself served two years as a Confederate soldier. He was first lieutenant of his company, but ill health gained for him his discharge.

In 1874 he returned to California, coming to San Luis Obispo. He engaged in the sheep business, in which he made a success until the Cleveland tariff rendered it unprofitable. Although he had full knowledge of what the Cleveland administration would mean, unswerved by apprehension of his individual loss, he stumped the county for Cleveland, for he was a believer in free wool for the nation. This is only one of the many instances in which Mr. Hathway proved his superior worth. He took a very prominent part in the development of the county, and during his term as supervisor he was active in systematizing the records of the board, and decisive in his determined demands to know how and where the people's money was being

Dr. Hathway was a man of culture and personal magnetism, and soon after his arrival in San Luis Obispo, in 1879, was a candidate for the assembly on the Workingman's and New Constitution tickets, but he was defeated by a small majority by H. Y. Stanley. In 1880, Mr. Hathway was again placed on the Workingman's ticket for assemblyman, but was defeated by P. W. Murphy. An influential politician approached Mr. Hathway and offered to throw votes his way if he would run on the Republican ticket against George Steele, or at least oppose him in the convention. His reply was, "You insult me," for he well knew that his election would mean toadyism to the "bosses." Had they seen beneath his culture and magnetic manner the stainless soul that lay hidden there, they would never have thus approached him. He preferred political oblivion to the faintest moral stain, since he cared nothing for self-aggrandizement.

Through keen business sagacity, Mr. Hathway accumulated considerable means. He was a philosopher, a good speaker, able to discourse on any subject, and a man of strong convictions who both made friends by his courteous manner and retained them by his steadfast adherence to the principles he deemed to be right and by his good citizenship. Many years ago he organized the Local Government League for the purpose of electing good men to office, regardless of their political affiliations or religious con-

**THOMAS BOYD.**—The influences which tended to mould the character of Thomas Boyd in his youth were such as clustered around the locality of Inneskillen, Ireland, where he was born in county Fermanagh, June 25, 1850, a son of Edward and Mary Ann (Stephenson) Boyd. Edward Boyd was a freholder of his native county Fermanagh. Grandfather Boyd lived to reach the age of ninety, was for years jailer in that county, was twice married, the second time at the age of seventy-four, and by that union had four children. Mary Ann Boyd was born in county Leitrum, near Mannerhanulton; and she died in 1863. Her father and mother had eighteen children, and all grew to years of maturity. Edward and Mary Ann Boyd had seven sons and two daughters, and after her death, Mr. Boyd married again

and became the father of six children by that marriage. Of the family we may mention John, of Santa Maria; Edward, employed by the Santa Fe in Los Angeles; Thomas; a half brother David, an employe of the Southern Pacific Milling Company at Santa Maria; Fred, a half brother now in Portland, Ore.; and a half sister, Phoebe McKee, who was well known in Santa Maria and San Jose, and moved to Indiana, where she died.

The eldest child of the family by the first marriage of his father, Thomas Boyd was educated in the common schools in his native country, lived there until he was twenty-one, and then, on May 1, 1871, bade good-bye to home and friends, and embarked for the United States, landing at Castle Garden in due time. For the first year he was variously employed in New York City. In 1872 he struck out for the West, and arrived in San Jose, California, where he hired out as a farm hand, working two years for wages, and gaining an insight into the customs of the westerners. In the fall of 1874, he came to the Santa Maria valley and found John Thornburg, R. D. Cook, Isaac Miller and Mr. Fesler, each with a house on the four half sections centering on what is now Main and Broadway streets. That was the beginning of what has become one of the liveliest towns between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Mr. Boyd started out to rent land, and with a partner, John Fremont Edwards, leased four hundred and eighty acres from the Kifer estate. This was the first independent venture he had undertaken. He had his reverses, dry years, pests, and all such interferences, but went about his work with a cheery smile, realizing that he was accomplishing something for himself. So well did he prosper that in 1880 he ventured to buy three hundred and twenty acres six miles southeast of the little town; and with that as an anchor, he has met with well-deserved success and has given his influence towards helping to build up the community, and his hard work and management have made his own success assured. While engrossed in his own affairs, it must not be inferred that Mr. Boyd has neglected the duties of a citizen, for he has aided every worthy enterprise for the good of the city and county. He has served on trial and grand juries, and is a member of the Republican county central committee, but has never been a seeker after office.

In 1884 occurred the marriage of Thomas Boyd and Emma Griffith, a native of Santa Clara county and daughter of William and Cordelia (Swickerd) Griffith; and they have four children living: Edna; Elmer, who married Gertrude Rice, December 12, 1916, and who is on the home ranch; Ruth, a graduate of the Santa Maria high school and the San Francisco Normal, who is teaching at Betteravia; and Bernice, who attends the grammar school.

In 1912 Mr. and Mrs. Boyd retired from the ranch to a comfortable home at the corner of Thornburg and Church streets, Santa Maria, where, with true hospitality, they entertain their many friends. Mrs. Boyd is a member of the Presbyterian Church and president of the Ladies' Aid Society, and she also belongs to the Minerva Club and Eastern Star, and (1916) served as District Deputy Grand Matron for the Fifteenth District of California. She is very charitable, and is actively interested in all uplifting movements. Mr. Boyd is a member of Hesperian Lodge No. 264, F. & A. M., and of the Eastern Star. He is a good farmer, large landowner, worthy citizen, and sympathetic neighbor and friend.

**JUAN PACIFICO AND ABRAHAM ONTIVEROS.**—The Ontiveros family is of Castilian blood, early members of whom were military men under the Spanish régime. The progenitor of the family in California was Gen. Patricio Ontiveros, born in Spain, a man of high military rank, who was sent by his government to do service in Mexico and was stationed at Los Angeles. Juan Pacifico Ontiveros, who was born in Los Angeles county in 1782, inherited the qualities of his ancestors and in early life joined the Spanish soldiery, was made a corporal of San Gabriel Mission and aided in the efforts to subdue the Indians and to protect the Spanish interests in Southern California. As a reward for his services, he was given a tract of land known as the Cajon de San Juan rancho in Los Angeles county, now in Orange county, upon which Anaheim is located, and which he sold in those early days for what was considered a large fortune. He then came to Santa Barbara county and in 1855 bought the Tepesquet rancho of nine thousand acres in the Santa Maria valley. The following year he brought about twelve thousand head of cattle from his southern rancho, and in 1857 began the construction of an adobe house that was completed the following year, where he lived until his death at the age of ninety-five years, the possessor to the last of gracious qualities of mind and heart, and of the respect and good will of all with whom he had ever been associated. In early manhood he had married Martina Carmen Ozona, who was born in Santa Barbara and became the mother of his twelve children. She died at the age of eighty-nine years, beloved by all who knew her. It is with a great deal of satisfaction that the portraits of this worthy couple are reproduced in this volume through the courtesy of their youngest son, Abraham Ontiveros of Santa Maria.

Abraham Ontiveros was born on the San Juan Cajon rancho, then in Los Angeles county, April 5, 1852, and was given the best advantages of an education in Spanish, his father procuring private teachers for his children prior to the advent of the public schools. He grew to maturity on the Tepesquet rancho, where he had been brought by his parents when a lad of three years; early learned the rudiments of farming and the stock business from his father; and upon his death inherited two thousand acres of valuable land. From boyhood he was of an inquiring disposition, and observed carefully the changing of the times and people, noticed the modern methods being introduced by new settlers in the county, and made up his mind that he would adopt them as far as he was able to do so. As a lad he traveled about the country with his father, and remembers when this part of the county was a desert waste, with bands of elk, deer, bears, wolves, wild hogs and other animals that roamed the land from coast to mountain across the site of what is now Santa Maria. He early learned to throw a lasso and once caught a wild hog that, when dressed, weighed some four hundred pounds. There were no trees except on the hills on either side of the valley, and the wind blew continuously and very hard. He well remembers the stories told by his father of the trials of the early stockmen when they would have to guard well their herds to keep them from being run off by thieves. He has kept records of the weather and rainfall in the valley for many years, and without doubt is the best-posted man on conditions during the transition of the state from stock to grain and dairying, and to hay and beans, whereby ranchers have made millions of dollars.

For many years Mr. Ontiveros was engaged in farming his two thousand acres, and met with well-deserved success in raising grain and stock, giving





especial attention to breeding fine horses and cattle, and raising large quantities of grain, grapes, olives and walnuts. His horses were his pride and likewise the envy of many; for he was satisfied with nothing but the best. To irrigate his land, he built a reservoir with a capacity of two hundred thousand gallons, on an elevation one hundred fifty feet high, bringing the water to the ranch from the springs in the mountains, and piping it to the buildings, where it may be had for domestic use. After a residence of more than fifty years on the ranch, Mr. Ontiveros moved to Santa Maria, where he has a comfortable home at 525 East Main street, and where he owns, besides this, other valuable residence and business properties.

Mr. Ontiveros has been twice married, first in 1879, to Miss Doraliza Vidal, a native of Santa Barbara county and the mother of his six children: Blanche, Mrs. Contreras, living in Mexico; Ozell A., formerly proprietor of the auto stage between Santa Barbara and Santa Maria, but now living on the home ranch with his wife and son; Erasmus A., also living on the ranch; Edmund F., who lives with his wife and daughter in Santa Maria, where he is proprietor of the California Garage, and who is also interested in ranching near Arroyo Grande as well as on the home ranch on the Tepesquet, of which he is general manager; Alesandro Evanoy, who is assistant manager of the home ranch, where he is living with his wife, formerly Katie De la Torre, and who is a corporal in the Fifth Regiment, U. S. Cavalry; and Ida, the wife of Dr. Charles Fowler of Sacramento and the mother of one daughter. The second marriage of Mr. Ontiveros united him with Miss Petra Arellanes, and was celebrated in 1903. She was born in Santa Barbara, a daughter of Jose Guadalupe and Leonore (Davis) Arellanes, both now deceased, the father dying in 1904, at the age of eighty, and the mother on March 27, 1917, at the age of eighty-two. The Arellanes family are of old Spanish descent, and still own large landed interests in California, where they have flourished for many years, and they are connected with many of the prominent Spanish and Mexican families of the early days. Mrs. Ontiveros is a woman of fine character and is a worthy helpmate to her husband, and both have a wide circle of friends throughout the entire state of California.

Mr. Ontiveros has been liberal in his support of all projects that have had for their object the upbuilding of the valley, county and state, being particularly active in furthering the best interests of the Santa Maria Agricultural Association. His stock and fruit exhibits at various fairs have attracted wide attention. He has in his possession a sword used by his grandfather, and other family heirlooms, among which is a beautifully embroidered silk bedspread valued at two thousand dollars, which was made in China over two hundred years ago, and was used in his father's wedding chamber. These two relics were a part of the California exhibit at the World's Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876, and their owner considers them priceless.

Mr. Ontiveros had always enjoyed good health until 1911, when he met with an accident on the streets of Los Angeles, where he was run over and suffered severe injuries and a fracture of his skull. His iron constitution stood him in hand and he recovered. In the summer of 1916 he suffered from liver trouble, and in a Santa Barbara hospital had one hundred eighty-one gall stones removed by an operation. At this writing he is fully recovered and in possession of his full, vigorous manhood, and is living in contentment with his good wife, surrounded by 111 children and grandchildren. Mr.

Ontiveros is repairing the old adobe erected by his father in 1857, and making of it a very comfortable home and a landmark on the Santa Maria ranch.

**CAREY C. AND WILLIAM C. OAKLEY.**—The son of a California pioneer and himself born in the state, William C. Oakley is justly proud of his connection with the varied interests of Santa Maria and the surrounding community. He was born in Sacramento county, October 31, 1866, a son of Carey Calvin and Elizabeth (Whaley) Oakley. The father was born in Tennessee, crossed the plains with ox-teams to California in 1851, and worked for a time in the gold mines in the northern part of the state. He later was in the employ of the late Leland Stanford, and then went to the Sacramento valley, where for a time he engaged in farming and stockraising with good results.

In 1869 the family left Sacramento and came to the Santa Maria valley, homesteaded a quarter section of land, located opposite the site where the depot now stands, and there settled and carried on a general farming enterprise for years. Carey C. Oakley brought one of the first threshing outfits to this section, and for some years operated it with success. He was married near Sacramento to Miss Elizabeth Whaley, a representative of an old pioneer family in Sonoma county, and they became parents of eleven children, all but two of whom reached maturity, and six of whom are now living: Francis D.; Mary E., Mrs. G. J. Trott; Nancy E., deceased; Emma C., Mrs. E. H. Stowell, who died, leaving five children; Charles, who died in childhood; William C.; James A.; Harry Lee, who died at the age of nineteen; Anna Adeline, Mrs. D. R. Daniels; Minnie Belle, Mrs. G. L. Cook; and John, who died in early childhood. The wife and mother died in 1880, after which Mr. Oakley was again married, Miss Margaret Robertson becoming his wife; and from this union one son was born, Lewis M. Mr. Oakley died in 1890; and his second wife passed away that same year, one week after his death.

W. C. Oakley was but three years of age when his parents came to this valley, and here he attended school and grew to manhood on the farm, early learning the details of a successful farming enterprise. He supplemented his education with a year's course in the University of Southern California, and then returned to take charge of the home place. The father and sons were engaged on a large scale in raising stock and grain, and this business, after the retirement of the former, was carried on by William C. and his brother, James A. Oakley. They bought land from time to time, and now have thirty-five hundred acres on the Alamo, giving their time and energies to raising cattle, horses and hogs. Besides their own land they lease one thousand acres which they operate in connection with their stock business.

While Mr. Oakley has devoted his time to his own interests, to attain the degree of success which he now enjoys, he has never neglected the duties of a citizen and has taken an active part in the affairs of the Democratic party and served as a member of the board of supervisors for his district in Santa Barbara county, from 1907 to 1911. In local city affairs he supports men and measures that in his judgment will further the interests of the people, regardless of party lines. He was elected a member of the board of trustees of Santa Maria and has served as its president with gratification to nearly every citizen. It has been during his incumbency in office that most important projects have been promoted and consummated, placing his city in the front rank of those of its size in the state. The sewer system has been installed,

the streets have been paved and joined with the state highway that passes through the city, and the municipal system of water works and supply has been perfected by the purchase of the plant that was started many years ago and conducted as a private enterprise. The city has a solid financial footing, its bonds commanding a high rate of interest as well as a premium, having a ready sale. It is largely due to such men as Mr. Oakley, who have been conservative in all projects for the city's welfare, that Santa Maria has attained the standing it boasts of today.

In 1891, Mr. Oakley was united in marriage with Miss Bertha Belle Rice, who was born in Arroyo Grande, a daughter of Daniel and Isabella (Jones) Rice, pioneer settlers of San Luis Obispo county. Mr. and Mrs. Oakley have seven children in their family. Isabelle is the wife of John DuBois, who is an engineer for the Pinal-Dome Refinery Co.; Elizabeth is a teacher in the grammar school in Santa Maria; Marion is a student in the San Francisco State Normal School; and Helen, Lois, Harry R., and Paul M. are attending school in Santa Maria. In 1903 Mr. Oakley erected his present home on Mill street.

Mrs. Oakley is a member of the Presbyterian Church and is active in the various societies therein, while Mr. Oakley is an attendant at the Methodist church, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Santa Maria. He and his wife have a wide circle of friends throughout Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties, and are known as quiet, home-loving people, always ready to lend a helping hand to those worthy of aid.

**PAUL O. TIETZEN.**—The sterling personal characteristics, accompanied by unquestioned financial and executive ability, which have placed Paul O. Tietzen among the foremost developers of northern Santa Barbara county have been correspondingly exemplified in a worthy and enviable ancestry, variously represented among the history-makers of the world, prominent in commerce, in military circles, and in finance. He was born on the family estate, Kleefelde, near Thorm, Prussian Poland, March 20, 1852, a son of Julius and Adelaide (Elsner) Tietzen, who became parents of twelve children, all of whom received good educational advantages, and who all remained in their native land except Paul. His father was a university graduate and an officer in the Prussian army, and was a descendant of a long line of merchants and manufacturers. The grandfather of Paul O. Tietzen was a wholesale merchant in Berlin, and the first of the family to settle in Prussian Poland. The great-grandfather was one of the first members of the Berlin Board of Trade, at that time being formed, and was the organizer of several of the larger commercial establishments in that city. The origin of the family is traced to Saxony, where for many generations they were connected with manufacturing enterprises.

The education of Paul O. Tietzen was received in private schools and in the Royal Gymnasium. He was reared in a home of culture by well-to-do parents, who were also strict disciplinarians. As a youth he read stories of adventure, such as J. Fenimore Cooper's works and others, which created in him a desire to see America. Although his parents did not positively disapprove, they would rather have had him remain at home. In 1868 he embarked for the United States, and came around the Horn on the ship "Davy Crockett," landing in San Francisco in overalls, a stranger in a strange land. He went from that city to the Sandwich Islands and to China, spent



several months traveling about, and then returned to San Francisco, where he secured a position as a clerk in a grocery store, picked up bookkeeping and later was employed as a bookkeeper by various firms in that city. Several years later, in casting up accounts, Mr. Tietzen discovered that it took all he earned to pay his living expenses in the city; and then and there he decided to look about for a new field of endeavor.

He came to the Santa Maria valley in 1879, became connected as bookkeeper with the firm of Blochman & Company, and spent several years between Guadalupe and San Luis Obispo in that capacity. In 1889 he was sent to the new town of Santa Maria, which then had only about three hundred inhabitants, as agent for the Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo. The outlook was anything but encouraging to start a bank; but he grasped the situation, and it was largely through his influence and energy that the Bank of Santa Maria was opened for business on May 1, 1890, with a capital of \$25,000. He was elected one of the directors, and the officers were: L. M. Kaiser, president; Antone Pezzoni, vice-president; F. B. Jack, manager; Paul O. Tietzen, cashier and treasurer. He is now president of the bank, and its capital and surplus are above \$500,000. Mr. Tietzen was one of the organizers of the Valley Savings Bank, which opened for business on September 1, 1901, with a capital of \$25,000, and was also the organizer of the First National Bank of Santa Maria, with a capital of \$50,000; both institutions have more than doubled their capital since their organization. He was one of the incorporators of the Pinal-Dome Oil Co., a \$4,000,000 concern, of which he is treasurer; and he is also connected with the Home Telephone Company of Santa Barbara, the Santa Maria Abstract Company, the Santa Maria Realty Company, and other business interests in this city and elsewhere. He was one of the prime movers in organizing the Santa Maria Gas Company, that furnishes gas to Santa Maria valley and San Luis Obispo.

Mr. Tietzen took an active interest in securing the Carnegie Free Library for Santa Maria, and he and Mrs. Tietzen donated the half block of ground for the lawn and building site. Mr. Tietzen has always been intensely interested in the good-roads movement; he assisted in the building up of the town by the erection of modern, substantial buildings; and in fact every movement for the advancement of the city, the county and the state has had his hearty co-operation and support. For many years he has been one of the most progressive leaders in this part of the county; he is a many-sided man, a lover of his fellow-men and of all good works for moral uplift. Fraternally, he is a Mason, a Knight of Pythias and a Forester, holding membership in the lodges of Santa Maria.

At the home of Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Lucas, who were then living in the ~~at the home of~~ of the oldest landmarks in the county in Guadalupe, on November 14, 1883, occurred the marriage of Paul O. Tietzen with Miss Margaret Mellenry, born in Santa Rosa, reared in Stanislaus county, and educated in public and private schools and in Hesperian College, at Woodland, Yolo county. She taught school in that county for a time, and in 1880 came to San Luis Obispo, where she continued teaching until her marriage. During the many years of her residence in Santa Maria, Mrs. Tietzen was a social leader, a worker for the good of the community, and interested in all reform movements, especially in temperance and equal suffrage. Four children blessed this union, three of whom are now living. Ida, educated at Mill's





*T. J. Ballard*

College in Oakland, is the wife of William Howard Haynes, of Houston, Texas. Hazel, a graduate from Miss Head's school and the University of California at Berkeley, became the wife of Charles S. Dodge, an extensive lumberman of the state, with offices in San Francisco. James Herbert is also a graduate from the University of California, and is about to take a graduate course in Harvard College.

To give their children the advantages of the colleges and universities, Mr. and Mrs. Tietzen took up their residence in Berkeley in 1909, where he erected a beautiful modern residence at Claremont Court. There Mrs. Tietzen's fine social qualities, his children's accomplishments, and his own family's hospitality, make of it an ideal home. Although residing in Berkeley, Mr. Tietzen's interests are still with Santa Maria, and he is still one of the dominating factors in the banking circles of Central California. It may have been luck or chance that led him to this state, but he surely feels well repaid, by the success he has won, for all the hardships he has had to endure and the obstacles he has had to overcome; and there is no more loyal citizen of the state of California than Paul O. Tietzen.

**THOMAS JEFFERSON BALLARD.** A native son of California and a representative of the class of pioneers who braved every danger to cross the plains and try to win a fortune from the mines, but who, not finding wealth as quickly as they expected, turned their attention to developing that richer resource, agriculture, and thereby won a competence, Thomas J. Ballard was born four miles from San Jose in Santa Clara county, August 21, 1858. He was a son of William Ballard, a native of Indiana, who crossed the plains with ox teams in 1850 and engaged in mining for a time. Returning to his Eastern home and claiming his bride, Lovina Elizabeth Bailey, who was born in North Carolina, Mr. Ballard again crossed the plains in 1853, and was followed by his wife, who came by way of Panama in 1855. On his second arrival in this state he settled on a farm in Santa Clara county and undertook the dairy business, which he followed until 1862. He sold out and removed to what is now Grangeville, Kings county, and bought a ranch there, improved it, and followed the stock business for a time. His next move was to a place near Visalia, where he remained until 1883, when he settled on a ranch three miles from Paso Robles and followed his chosen occupation until 1906, when he removed to Paso Robles and lived retired until his death, on January 2, 1913, at the age of eighty-seven. His widow survived him until March 10, 1916, when she passed away at the age of eighty-one years. They became the parents of seven children, six sons and one daughter, of whom three sons and one daughter are living. Mr. Ballard was a prominent citizen of this state and did his share in developing the resources that have made it one of the best-known agricultural states in the Union. He enlisted for service in the California Home Guards during the War of the Rebellion.

Thomas J. Ballard was reared on the home farm and went to school in Tulare county. When he was twenty-four years old he came to Parkfield, Monterey county, and pre-empted one hundred sixty acres of land; and later he added another quarter section, developed it, and raised grain and stock, making a specialty of cattle, horses and hogs, and meeting with very good success in this undertaking. His brand was the number 12. In 1910, on account of his parents' age, he located in Paso Robles to care for them in

their declining years, leasing his land, and while living here engaged in the poultry business. Meeting with success in this venture, he sold his ranch and branched out in his new industry, now owning two blocks at Seventeenth and Riverside avenue, and also two acres on the Salinas river. He specializes in white Leghorns, has his own incubator and brooders, and ships eggs and poultry to the San Francisco markets. He has about five hundred hens, kept in three different yards, with nesting houses. He raises alfalfa and has erected two pumping plants to supply water for the irrigation of alfalfa and kale for his poultry. He is an active member of the Methodist Church and a member of the official board. In politics he is a Republican and a warm supporter of all movements for the betterment of the people and the development of the county's resources.

**WILLIAM W. CULP.**—One of the oldest and best-known of the tenants on the great Suey ranch, five miles northeast from Santa Maria, is William W. Culp, a native son, born June 14, 1864, in Grass Valley, Nevada county, a son of Rev. William and Margaret Elizabeth (Woods) Culp. Rev. Mr. Culp was born in Kentucky, whence he went to Missouri, and later to Oregon. In the early fifties he came down to California. He was a Methodist preacher, and his first charge in California was in Grass Valley, where he met and later married Miss Woods, a native of Missouri. Her father, William D. Woods, crossed the plains in 1848 from Missouri, driving a cow and a mule, hitched together, and arrived in Grass Valley with his wife and children, Mrs. Culp then being but seven years old. He was a member of the Pacific Conference and helped to organize many Methodist churches in northern and central California, where he became well known. He moved from place to place, as is the custom with ministers of that faith, and finally died in Merced in 1870, after a very useful career.

Four children of this worthy couple grew to maturity: Fannie married S. O. Fesler and lives in Modesto; William W. is the subject of this review; Margaret became the wife of John Whaley and lives in Bakersfield; Lucy is Mrs. Henry Morris of Santa Maria. Mrs. Margaret Culp died at the home of her son, William W., on the Suey ranch in 1906, aged sixty-three years.

The only son of his parents, William W. Culp obtained his education in the public schools of Merced and Kern counties. His father died in Merced county, and some few years later his mother took her children and moved to Woody, Kern county, where she remained until 1882, when the little family came to the Santa Maria valley. The town was small, and there was not much work to be had by a lad of seventeen; besides, the family were poor, so he had to find some kind of employment to help toward their support. Farming and stockraising were the principal industries in the section, and he sought a job and was offered one as a farm hand on the Suey ranch and cheerfully went to work, eager to earn a few dollars with which to aid his mother and sisters.

He soon became acquainted with Ellis Nicholson, then superintendent of the Suey ranch, and that acquaintance leading to a lasting friendship, young Culp became a trusted employe and later one of the foremen. Still later, when Mr. Nicholson was appointed agriculturist for the Union Sugar Co. at Betteravia, Mr. Culp became superintendent of Mr. Nicholson's fifteen hundred acre ranch, which he had leased from the Newhall company, and remained Mr. Nicholson's trusted superintendent until 1905. At that time Mr. Culp

leased six hundred thirty acres of the Sney ranch and since then has met with success.

In 1911 Mr. Culp was united in marriage with Mrs. Cora (Scott) Sheppard, a native of Massachusetts and a daughter of Henry and Sarah E. (Birl) Scott; and they have one daughter, Cora. By a former marriage with Frederick Sheppard, two children were born, and one, Laura Sheppard, is living.

Mr. Culp is prominent in fraternal circles as a Mason, a Knight of Pythias, and an Odd Fellow. Mr. and Mrs. Culp are members of the Methodist church. They reside in a very comfortable bungalow that he erected in 1910 at 418 West Chapel street in Santa Maria. Mr. Culp has never shirked a duty. He is public-spirited and charitable, and is honest and upright in all his dealings.

**J. FRED BRANCH.**—The interest which attaches to the biography of California pioneers is not that of curiosity, but a visible expression of the gratitude which all men feel towards those forerunners of civilization in the far west. The youngest son of that grand pioneer, Francis Z. Branch, of whom mention is made in detail in this work by the editor on another page, J. Fred Branch was born in the Arroyo Grande valley March 15, 1853, upon a ranch that numbered thousands of acres. Here he grew to manhood and received his education in the public schools and also by private teacher, his father hiring a lady from New York to teach in his district; after which he completed his education in a college in San Francisco.

Returning to the ranch he engaged in farming on part of his father's property on his own account, raising great numbers of sheep and cattle; and during the dry years of 1877-78 he lost thousands of them, as he had no feed, nor could feed be bought. At this writing, Mr. Branch is owner of a fine tract of land of four hundred acres which he has stocked with a fine dairy of sixty cows. He is very successful in the conduct of his ranch and dairy. Mr. Branch is a member of the Knights of Pythias.

J. Fred Branch was united in marriage March 5, 1881, with Miss Herlinda Bonilla, born in California and a daughter of Judge Jose Mariano Bonilla, who was the first Judge of San Luis Obispo County. He was born in Mexico, educated at the National College of San Yldefonso and graduated with the degree of B. L.; and he became a prominent member of the bar of the City of Mexico. He was sent to California in 1834 with one of the colonies as secretary to Governor Figueroa, and later was promoted Judge of the First Instance. He married a daughter of Don Inocente Garcia in 1837, that gentleman then being administrator of the Mission of San Miguel. Don Jose Mariano Bonilla became the secretary to his father-in-law, and later was appointed by Governor Juan B. Alvarado administrator of the Mission at San Luis Obispo, where he then made his home. After the annexation of California to the Union, and before the constitution of the state was adopted, Don Jose Bonilla held the position of subprefect and alcalde under the military government; and after the adoption of the constitution, he became the first judge of this county. He also served at different times as supervisor. In 1866, he retired from public life. He erected the Cuesta flouring mill and was one of the pioneers in that business. He died March 19, 1878.

Thus it will be seen that Mr. Branch, through his birth, is numbered with the prominent pioneer family who have been so important a factor in the development of this county and in the preservation of law and order, and

that through his marriage he is connected with the Spanish Dons who held sway in California before there was any thought of American occupation to develop the land and bring to the country sources of wealth other than stock interests.

**ANDREW NELSON.**—A resident of Paso Robles from 1888 until his death, August 9, 1915, at the age of sixty-nine years, Andrew Nelson did much to promote the prosperity of this section of San Luis Obispo county. He was born in Helsingborg, Skane, Sweden, February 28, 1846, and was educated in the public schools of his home place and raised on the home farm. When eighteen years of age, he went to sea and for the following twelve years followed the life of a sailor. During this time he was twice shipwrecked. He sailed around the Horn several times, and was employed in both coasting and foreign trade. When he finally left the sea, he came to San Francisco; and two years later he was in charge, as foreman, of the construction of a large business block, and demonstrated that he was able to handle men. He next went to Seattle and bought a small farm four miles from town on Salmon bay; and this he developed and improved and set out to fruit and berries, and met with good success. In 1886 he came to California, and to Paso Robles, for his health, and was so well pleased with the conditions as he found them in this section that he returned to Seattle and sold out his holdings there. Returning to Paso Robles, in 1888, he located on a ranch of one hundred sixty acres four and one-half miles from the city. In order that his children might have the advantage of good schools there, he also bought one hundred nine acres, one and one-half miles out of town, erected suitable buildings and improved the place with an orchard of twenty-five acres of several varieties of berries, and began raising poultry and conducting a dairy. He was thrifty and a good manager, and accumulated a competency. He retired from the busy cares of the ranch two years before he died, and gave over the management to his sons, who carried it on with success.

Mr. Nelson was married in San Francisco, on March 2, 1876, to Miss Annie Ekblöm, who was born in Vennersborg, Sweden, where she was reared and educated. She came to New York and remained there a little over six years, then came west to San Francisco and eight months later married Mr. Nelson. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson had five children: Robert, who is a business man in San Francisco; Ernest and Frederick, partners in grain raising on the Nelson ranch, near Paso Robles; Albert, who conducts the home place; and Mabel.

Mr. Nelson built several residences in town, where he owned property and was always in favor of progress in every way. He was a member of the Methodist church, to which congregation his wife belongs. He was a Republican, but never an aspirant for office; and he was a member of Paso Robles Lodge No. 286, F. & A. M. His widow owns a valuable piece of property at the corner of Vine and Twelfth streets. Mr. Nelson passed away at his home at the age of sixty-nine years, and between the date of his birth and his death saw and aided many movements that were promoted to build up the various sections where he had made his home. As was most natural, therefore, he was mourned at his passing by a large circle of friends who valued him for his worth as a citizen.







*J. D. Ontiveros*

**JOSE DOLORES ONTIVEROS and MRS. AUGUSTA ONTIVEROS.**

—When death called Jose Dolores Ontiveros, the Santa Maria valley lost one of its most public-spirited citizens, and one who had grown up from early boyhood within its limits; for his father, the late Juan Pacifico Ontiveros, became a resident of this section in 1856, when he purchased the Tepesquet rancho of nine thousand acres and brought his family there to reside, this son then being but five years old. Under stress of circumstances, women have often shown marked business ability; and after the death of Jose Ontiveros his widow, Mrs. Augusta Ontiveros, took up the management of his extensive affairs, and in the passing of the years has shown capacity for interests commonly supposed to be outside of woman's sphere.

Mr. Ontiveros was born on the Cajon San Juan rancho in Los Angeles county, in that part now set aside and known as Orange county, March 19, 1851; and when he was but five years old, his parents moved to Santa Barbara county and ever after made it their home. He was educated in the Spanish language by teachers hired by his father, that being the custom before there were any public schools established in this section of the county. He grew to manhood on the Tepesquet, learned the details of successful farming, and was engaged in that vocation during his lifetime. He inherited considerable land from his father's estate, and by good management succeeded in retaining possession of it and operating it with success.

On March 11, 1881, occurred the marriage that united Jose D. Ontiveros with Miss Augusta Flores, a native daughter of Santa Barbara, whose father, Juan Flores, was born in Chile, South America, while her mother, Señora Isodora Valenzuela, was born in Santa Barbara. She was one of the children born to Jose Maria and Josefa (Cota) Valenzuela, native Californians, the former descending from Spanish blood and being married in this state. Both families were remarkable for longevity, and were among the highly respected representative people of the early days in California.

After the marriage of this worthy couple they came to the old homestead on the Tepesquet and farmed, later removing to the place where the widow now lives, although for a time they were residents of Santa Maria. Of this marriage four children were born. Abdon, who is farming part of the Tepesquet ranch, married Grace Bacon of Los Angeles; Abner, also living on a part of the old ranch, married Carolee Butts, who was born in San Diego; Hortensia is the wife of Ramon Goodchild, a promising young rancher living near Sisquoc, and has one son, Ramon William Goodchild; while Delila became the wife of Patrick E. Hourihan and lives on the Tepesquet. All the children have been given the advantages of good schools, and have been enabled to take their places in the business and social world with credit to themselves and to their early training. The family are consistent members of the Catholic Church, Mrs. Ontiveros being a member and liberal supporter of the Foxen cañon church. She owns the home ranch of three hundred sixty acres near Sisquoc and three hundred fifty more on the Huasna in San Luis Obispo County, which is devoted to the raising of stock; and she has given her personal attention to her business affairs and is known as a shrewd business woman. The residence occupied by her is the old adobe, remodeled at considerable expense and having grounds beautified with lawn, flowers and cement walks and stairway leading to the building, which has a fine setting

on a hillside overlooking the cañon and valley. Here Mrs. Ontiveros dispenses a gracious hospitality to all.

Mr. Ontiveros passed away March 4, 1909, after having lived a useful and busy life, and left to his descendants the heritage of an untarnished name. For more detailed mention of the family of Ontiveros, the reader is referred to the biographical sketch of Abraham Ontiveros on another page of this work.

**PETER AND INA JOHNSON.**—It is a far cry from Sweden to California, but many of the men who are responsible for the upbuilding of this commonwealth have come from that distant country and fulfilled their ambitions in this state of opportunity. Such a man was the late Peter Johnson, who came to San Luis Obispo County in 1888 and thereafter made his home amid the surroundings conducive to long life and happiness. His untimely death was a loss to the county, for his progressive spirit encouraged many to success.

Peter Johnson was born in Sweden, near Osterlund, February 2, 1847, reared to hard work on the farm, and had such school advantages as the country afforded to one in his station in life. Left orphaned at the tender age of thirteen, he lived with his sister until 1867, when he came to America. In Lansing, Ia., he worked for wages on a farm, then went to Caledonia, Minn., and there, in 1872, was married, in Houston county, to Miss Ina Gamberg. She was also a native of Sweden, born in 1850, in Gnarpsofen, Helsingland. Her parents, Lars P. and Ingri Gretta (Frenel) Gamberg, brought their family to Houston county, Minn., in 1866, bought a farm and improved it, and later removed to South Dakota; and in Clay county they homesteaded a quarter section and farmed with success, until they retired to Sioux Falls, where they both died, twelve months apart, each aged ninety-one years.

After marriage Mr. and Mrs. Johnson went to South Dakota and homesteaded a quarter section of land adjoining her father's farm, made improvements and raised grain and stock until they came to California, in 1888, arriving in San Luis Obispo County, May 14. Mr. Johnson first bought a farm near Linne, but remained only two months, as it was not what he wanted. He then bought eighty acres, three miles from Paso Robles, improved it and, being a handy man with tools and a sort of mechanical genius (for he could do carpenter work, lay brick and stone and make shoes), soon had his ranch in a well-improved condition. At the same time, he worked for others at building, and also at manufacturing brick, which found ready sale in the building-up of the new city of Paso Robles. He set out an orchard which did well; but there was no sale for the fruit, and he dug up the trees. As his means permitted, he added to his holdings, first eighty acres and again one hundred and twenty-five more, working hard to improve the land and make a success with his grain and stock raising industry.

As a result of injuries received in an accident in which he was crushed by a falling roof, the death of Mr. Johnson occurred in 1913. He was a Christian, a member of the Swedish Baptist Church at Linne, and a deacon. In South Dakota he was one of the men who advocated and helped to maintain good schools in his district, and served on the board of directors for years. He voted the Republican ticket at the elections and believed in its party principles. Since his death his widow has maintained the position he built up for the family.

and conducts the ranch with success. She devotes considerable attention to the raising of horses, being the owner of Black Tom, half Percheron-Norman, whose weight is 1400 pounds, and which took a premium at the Upper Salinas Valley Fair. She also raises Jersey cattle, and has twenty-five acres in alfalfa, and a good well with a twenty-five horse-power pumping plant, with a six inch pump.

Mrs. Johnson is the mother of nine children, six born in Dakota and three in California. Martha, Mrs. Samuelson, is of Turlock; Christine, Mrs. Lindstrom, lives at San Jose; George is a rancher near Colton; Elwood is a dairyman in the vicinity of Turlock; Amanda, Mrs. Hanson, lives in Minnesota; Oscar is employed as a stenographer in Modesto; William is with his mother, running the home place; Lillian, a twin sister of William, married I. M. Phillips and resides in San Luis Obispo; and Nina became the wife of Arthur Hansen of Oakland. Mrs. Johnson and her children are members of the Baptist church. To this woman is due great credit for the manner in which she is carrying to success the enterprise undertaken by her worthy husband.

**JOHN BONHAM KESTER.**—One of the best-known of the pioneers who have wrested success from the stored fertility of two states is J. B. Kester, now living retired in San Luis Obispo after many years of activity in farming in Iowa and California. He was born in Montgomery county, Ind., September 19, 1829, and when three years of age was taken by his parents to Illinois, where they lived two years. Then, in 1836, they turned their steps once more towards the West and located in Cedar county, Iowa, then a territory, and recognized as the frontier.

Here J. B. Kester was educated in the primitive schools of the time and place, and was reared to young manhood on his father's farm, or until he was old enough to strike out for himself. He was trained to farm duties by his father, who had made a success of that work, and when starting out for himself, engaged in general farming and the raising of cattle and horses, making a specialty of heavy draft horses, which took first prizes at the Iowa state and county fairs. He was active in the upbuilding of his section of the state and supported men and measures that would best advance the interests of the people.

In 1863, like his father, he heard the call of the West, and with his family he drove across the plains to California, where he felt that better opportunities awaited him; and settling in Napa county, near St. Helena, he again took up farming, and for the following four years he again met with success. In 1867, he came to San Luis Obispo County, took up one hundred and sixty acres of government land on Old creek near Cayucos, and began improving a new home under pioneer conditions. As fast as he could, he added to his holdings, until he became owner of five hundred twenty acres of land. Here he made all desirable improvements, and with decided success for the next thirty-three years carried on dairying and the raising of hogs, cattle and grain. In 1911, after a long period of activity, Mr. Kester disposed of his ranch, and then moved to San Luis Obispo and retired from active life.

It is safe to say that there is not a better known man in San Luis Obispo County than J. B. Kester, who has a wide acquaintance, and, as a Republican, has been supervisor of his district eight years, during which term in

office many needed improvements were made throughout the county. He served his constituents impartially and well. In 1900 he was deputy United States census marshal for the county. For twenty-five years he was one of the trustees of the Cayucos district school, and did much to bring the school to its present high standard.

Mr. Kester was united in marriage in 1854, in Iowa, with Miss Sarah Jane Chord, by whom he has had eight children, six of whom are living: John C., living in Kings county; Willard W., of Paso Robles; Mrs. Margaret M. Archer, in Los Angeles; Frank U., near Shandon; Edwin, deceased; Charles D., working on the state highway in Sonoma county; Felix, residing in Oregon; and one child that died in infancy. Mrs. Kester passed away January 13, 1881, and on August 5, 1882, Mr. Kester was again married, Mrs. Elizabeth (Brown) Hill becoming his wife. By this second marriage one daughter, Julia, now the wife of Abram B. Green of San Luis Obispo, was born. Mrs. Elizabeth Kester died October 2, 1912.

**LEO P. SCARONI.**—A citizen of Santa Maria whose success has been builded upon determination and the gift of application, as well as upon strict honesty and integrity, so that he merits the confidence of all with whom he has business or social relations, is Leo P. Scaroni, cashier of the Bank of Santa Maria and a native son of California. He was born in Santa Cruz county, May 19, 1877, a son of Pio and Filicita (Gianoni) Scaroni. The grandfather, G. A. Scaroni, was a dairyman and mayor for many years of Gordola, Switzerland. Pio Scaroni was born July 11, 1851, on a farm in the sheltering Swiss mountains, arrived in the United States December 28, 1869, and since then has become one of the prominent and successful ranchers of Santa Cruz county, where he still lives. The eight children born to Pio Scaroni and his wife are Leo P., Mary, Adeline, Lilly, Joseph, Anna, Harry and John.

The oldest son and child of his parents, Leo P. Scaroni graduated from the grammar school at the age of fourteen, then attended Chestnutwoods (now Heald's) Business College six months, and afterwards continued at the home ranch six years. When he was twenty, he left home and went to San Luis Obispo, where he was employed in the Commercial Bank two years. He was sent by that institution to Santa Maria, after the organization of the Bank of Santa Maria by Paul O. Tietzen, who had been the representative of that bank in Santa Maria for some months. He was employed from 1899 until 1905 as clerk, then promoted to be cashier; and this position he still holds, enjoying the confidence of the officers of the bank as well as of its customers, among whom a large majority of the Swiss and Portuguese patrons seek his advice on many of their business matters. He has long been one of the men who have materially assisted in the development of the valley.

Mr. Scaroni was united in marriage in March, 1905, with Flora McNeil, and they have two children, Margaret and Catherine. Mr. Scaroni erected his residence at 508 South Broadway in 1905, and here he and his family live in comfort and entertain in their hospitable manner. Mr. Scaroni is now one of the men who stand at the front in the conduct of the bank; and by his accurate methods, strict attention to business, clear-headed, rigid honesty and courteous manner, he has aided very materially in bringing the institution to its present sound financial standing in the state.





*O.P. Moore*

**OLIVER PERRY MOORE.** A most interesting early pioneer, Alaskan gold miner, and sturdy old soldier, who, while seeing much of the world, has left a record for worthy living and honest dealing, is Oliver Perry Moore, a native of the Hoosier State, although a grandson of Irish forebears and the son of Buckeye parents. His grandfather was a native Irishman named Moore, while his maternal grandmother came of a German family named Garner. His father was David Moore, an early settler of Ohio, while his mother was Patsy Garner, whose family originally came from Germany.

Born at Kokomo, Ind., July 20, 1849, our subject enlisted, when only fourteen, in Company E, 9th Indiana Volunteer Infantry; but as he was too small to meet the physical requirements demanded, he was transferred to Company E, of the 126th Indiana Cavalry. In November, 1863, he was mustered in at his birthplace. He did valiant service under General Hancock, and remained a loyal soldier supporter of the Union until 1865, when, at Jeffersonville, in his native state, he was honorably discharged. During the time when he thus exposed life and limb for the sake of the great cause for which his country was fighting, he served at the battle of Franklin, in Tennessee, as well as at the battles of Mammoth Cave and Nashville, fighting the rebels all the way to Atlanta, as he is wont to express it with spirit but with no unkindliness. One result of this honorable record of unselfish service and distinguished bravery is that veteran Moore today sits high in the councils of the Grand Army of the Republic, in their headquarters at Santa Maria.

When eighteen years of age, O. P. Moore set out for the Pacific Coast by way of Aspinwall and Panama, and landed at San Francisco about the first of May, 1868. After a brief sojourn there, he went to Salinas, where he worked on a farm by the month for his brother, Milton Moore, who now lives at Castroville. He then leased land there and farmed for eight or nine years, after which, in 1874, he came to Guadalupe. He bought land from Daniel Coiner, but sold it back to him, went to Los Alamos to start afresh, and farmed there with varying success.

In 1898 Mr. Moore went to Alaska, during the mining excitement, stopped at Dyce and Skagway, and crossed the Chilcot and the White passes, returning to Santa Maria in 1900, where he tilled in the neighboring valley. Six years ago he bought the present ranch of nineteen acres.

At the beginning of this eventful century, Mr. Moore was married to Mrs. Rettie Saulsbury, the widow of George Saulsbury, a conscientious woman and a motherly wife. She was the daughter of Daniel Davidson, and was born in Indiana, from which state she migrated to Kansas when twelve years old. There she grew up until she was married to Mr. Saulsbury, a rancher, who came with her to California in 1894, dying here four years later.

Five children, whom Mr. Moore large-heartedly regards as his own, blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Saulsbury. George Leonard became a rancher and teamster, residing near Los Alamos, and married Minnie Granas, of Los Olivos; James Albert is also a rancher, living near his brother, and he married Virgie Stowe, of Girard, Kansas, by whom he has had three children, George, Elizabeth and Isabelle; John Clyde is a farmer, and married Sadie Ralph, of Sisquoc, by whom he has one child, McClellan Clyde; Pearl is the wife of James Easter, assistant mechanic residing on the Folsom lease; and Lillian is the wife of Harry Coles, a carpenter and builder.



A wide-awake citizen with Democratic preferences, proud of his record as one of the youngest boys in the Civil War, Mr. Moore is a pioneer who is most loyal to the valley in which he has settled.

**WILLIAM H. RICE.**—Gifted with the force of character, business capacity and unswerving integrity which characterize the progressive and successful men of the West, William H. Rice has won large returns from the virgin soil. One of the Native Sons of the Golden West, he was born in Healdsburg, Sonoma county, October 11, 1856, a son of John H. and Mary A. (Long) Rice. His father, of Welsh extraction, was born in Tennessee, the son of a planter who died in Arkansas at the age of eighty, and whose widow came to California, spent one year visiting and returned to her Arkansas home, where she died at the age of eighty-one. Grandfather Isaac Rice, a slave owner, was an influential man. He wrote considerably for publication, was well-informed and became wealthy. During the war he lost his slaves and became greatly reduced in finances. On the maternal side, the Longs are of English descent. Mary A. Long was born in Ohio, and came overland to California in 1853 with her parents, William and Mary Long, who were natives of South Carolina and Ohio respectively, in which state they were married. Grandfather William Long met his death as the result of a runaway at the age of seventy. His wife lived to reach the age of eighty-four. John H. Rice and wife had seven children; one died young and the others grew up. He owned the Rice ranch of about seventeen hundred acres lying west of Santa Maria. His widow still lives in Santa Maria, and is aged eighty-one.

William H. Rice attended the public schools in Healdsburg until he was eleven, and then went with his parents to Monterey county in 1867, where he continued his studies and grew up on the ranch, working with his father at farming and stock raising. He later attended Christian College at Santa Rosa. In 1873 his parents moved to the Santa Maria valley, and here William H. received his first experience in business. With his father he operated the Rice ranch west of town, it being one of the most valuable places in the vicinity. In 1880, he married and went to work on the Arellanes ranch, which he leased. His first purchase was eighty acres east of town; later he bought one hundred and sixty acres south of town, adding to these from time to time until he is owner of about thirteen thousand acres, including his share of the original Rice ranch. In 1908 Mr. Rice leased out his ranches, and bought a place in town where he is living, practically retired, although a man of large affairs. He once owned a ranch in Cat cañon, which he sold to the Old Mission Oil Company. The sale of this property netted him a snug fortune.

On April 14, 1880, in Los Alamos, W. H. Rice and Miss Florence Coiner, daughter of Daniel Coiner, one of the pioneers of the valley, were united in marriage. Mrs. Rice has been a true helpmate to her husband, and dispenses the hospitality of their home at 401 West Cypress street with grace and charming simplicity. They are the parents of seven children. Elmer C., a rancher of the valley, married Edna Blosser; Owen T., a rancher, married Viola Cook of Des Moines, Iowa, and two children, Owen S. and William, grace the home; Marion, a rancher, married Clara Stringfield, member of a San Luis Obispo pioneer family, and they have three children, Florence A., Leland and Lindal; William T., assistant cashier in the Bank of Santa Maria.

married Teresa McDonald, and two children, Rodger and Catherine, have blessed their home; Gertrude married Elmer Boyd, November 12, 1916, and resides in Santa Maria; Edith, a graduate of the Santa Maria high school and the Oakland Polytechnic, is a stenographer for the Pinal-Dome Oil Co. and lives at home; and Ellis H., a graduate of the Santa Maria high school and the Oakland Polytechnic, is employed in the Bank of Santa Maria. The sons, who are all hard workers, have been of valuable assistance to their father, and are now making a name for themselves.

William H. Rice was a delegate in 1908, from Santa Barbara county, to the Irrigation Congress at Albuquerque, N. M. He was one of the prime movers in the organization of Reclamation District No. 798, for the protection of the Santa Maria valley, and served as president until the work was finished, when he resigned. He served as trustee of the Santa Maria high school from its organization, and was president of the board several terms, being on the building committee when the building was erected. Outside of his ranching operations, he fills a responsible position as the president of the Valley Savings Bank, a position he has held from its organization; and he is also a director in the Bank of Santa Maria. Conservatism is one of Mr. Rice's dominating characteristics. He is public-spirited, heartily favors and supports all progressive movements, and is one of the most kindly disposed men in Santa Maria.

**BANK OF SANTA MARIA.** Since its organization, this institution has grown rapidly, although at first it did not have clear sailing, as the country was sparsely settled and the people did not realize the advantages of a banking system as they do today, in addition to which money was not so plentiful. During the dry years of 1893-1897, the panics and the financial difficulties of 1905 and 1908, the bank had its discouragements; but under the active management of Paul O. Tietzen, to whom the bank owes much of its steady rise to prosperity, it succeeded in weathering the conditions. When he made a step, it was always one forward; and the results are written into the history of the bank and of the town of Santa Maria. Today the bank's capital, surplus and profits are \$500,000, and it is one of the most substantial and prosperous institutions in Central California, with branches at Guadalupe and Los Alamos.

Twenty-six years have passed; and the bank has grown in capital and has extended its scope all over northern Santa Barbara county. The credit for this growth and success is principally due to the management of its affairs by Paul O. Tietzen, J. F. Goodwin and Leo P. Scaroni, supported by its ever efficient officers and board of directors. These now are: Paul O. Tietzen, president; J. F. Goodwin and S. A. Dana, vice-presidents; Leo P. Scaroni, cashier; B. E. Jessee and William T. Rice, assistant cashiers; and F. C. Twitchell, J. F. Goodwin, G. Muscio, P. O. Tietzen, William H. Rice, S. A. Dana, E. J. Pezzoni and John Long, directors.

The bank erected its splendid new building on Main and Broadway, with rooms equipped with the most modern and complete of furnishings, including vaults, safes and safe-deposit boxes of the finest types invented, the whole being an ornament to the town. It was opened for business May 1, 1890, with a capital of \$25,000, its officers then being L. M. Kaiser, president; A. Pezzoni, vice-president; F. B. Jack, manager; and Paul O. Tietzen,

cashier and secretary. R. E. Jack, J. F. Goodwin, Henry Brunner, L. M. Kaiser, McD. R. Venable, F. B. Jack, Antone Pezzoni and Paul O. Tietzen made up its board of directors.

Plans have been prepared for enlarging the bank building by remodeling the front and interior and occupying the entire frontage, including that of the Valley Savings Bank building, thus making this institution one of the most modern and up-to-date banks in the coast section of California.

**DAWSON LOWE.**—The late Dawson Lowe was a pioneer of California in the early sixties. He was a native of England, born in Lincolnshire, September 1, 1842, a son of Richard and Elizabeth (Tisdale) Lowe. Dawson Lowe came with his parents from England to the United States, when nine years of age, and was reared in Wisconsin. From a lad he had a longing for the Golden West and often told how he would stand on the hill at his home at Cross Plains, Wisconsin, gazing at the sun going down with a desire that he might some day live on the Pacific Coast. So he worked the harder on farms at eight dollars per month, until he had accumulated enough to take him to New York and thence across the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco.

On his arrival here, at the age of twenty-one, he at once struck into the country, and at Benicia obtained employment with a blacksmith, by whom he was cheated out of his pay after he had worked some time. Then he made his way to Sonoma county, and in the vicinity of Petaluma worked for wages until he settled on a rented ranch and began farming for himself; and ever since that time he was successful, from a financial standpoint, and his early boyhood wish was realized.

He continued farming in Sonoma county until in 1880 he sold out and located in San Luis Obispo County. Settling near Morro, he farmed two years and then moved near San Luis Obispo, where he purchased one hundred sixty acres of land, which he cultivated, raising large quantities of hay that commanded high prices in the local trade. Later he acquired ranches in different parts of the county, the largest being the Filmore ranch. When the state located the polytechnic school in San Luis Obispo County, Mr. Lowe sold two hundred eighty acres, which comprises the present polytechnic school farm. He also owned valuable business property in San Luis Obispo, and was at one time a director in the San Luis Obispo Bank.

Mr. Lowe was united in marriage with Mary Linebaugh, who was born in Sonoma county, a daughter of John and Katherine (Fruits) Linebaugh, both natives of Missouri. They crossed the plains to California with ox teams in 1852 and settled in Sonoma county, where they became well-known pioneers.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Dawson Lowe three children were born—Robert, deceased; S. Jackson; and Mrs. Clara Brooks. Mr. Lowe died May 14, 1908. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Lowe erected the beautiful Monterey Theatre block in San Luis Obispo on Monterey street, on one of the properties left by her husband. Mr. Lowe was always a liberal supporter of any worthy movement for the betterment of the citizens and the upbuilding of the county with which he was for so many years actively and prominently connected, but all that he did was accomplished in an unostentatious manner.

**THOMAS B. RECORDS.**—A Californian after 1875, the year of his arrival in the Golden State, the late Thomas B. Records of Arroyo Grande valley was an example of that sturdy type of frontiersmen who laid the foundation of the present-day prosperity of the state. He was born in Brown county, Ohio, August 29, 1821, a son of James and Elizabeth (Heaton) Records, who were pioneers of that state, settling there when the country was covered with timber, and Indians and wild game were much in evidence. This worthy couple were married in Ohio in 1820, where they resided for several years and endured the privations and hardships of the times. In 1824, with that spirit of Wanderlust that prompted him to settle in Ohio, James Records took his wife and children and located in Indiana, where he passed away. Mrs. Records here married Robert Pence; and once more the family started westward, settling in Henderson county, Ill., in 1828, near Oquawka, in the midst of a heavily timbered section, and took up the task of clearing a farm. There was no habitation in that part of the country, and the first winter was spent in an Indian wigwam owned by the great chieftain, Blackhawk, who himself gave Mr. Pence permission to occupy it. This was at a time when nearly all of the Indians were friendly and willingly aided the "pale-faces."

It was in this environment that Thomas B. Records grew to manhood, got what little schooling the community afforded, and became inured to hard work, grubbing timber and tilling the soil. Here also he met Miss Mary Short, of Scotch-Irish descent, whom he married on April 1, 1847. She was born in Perry county, Ind., January 15, 1828. Her parents, Stephen Short, a Virginian, born in 1805, and Agnes Prunty, born in Kentucky in 1808, were married in 1827. They moved to Indiana in 1828, and that same year continued westward to Oquawka, Henderson county, Ill., where they settled. There were three sons and five daughters in the family, all of whom lived to a ripe age.

After their marriage Thomas B. Records and his wife settled on a farm that he cleared from the timber, where they endured hardships with a fortitude worthy of emulation by the younger generations. There they developed a fine farm from the wilderness; and there twelve children were born, seven of them dying prior to 1874. Mr. Records was anxious that the young folks should have the advantages of schools, and he assisted in building up the schools of that locality, serving as a director for years. He and his wife were strict Cumberland Presbyterians in their religious belief.

He remained in Henderson county on his farm until in the spring of 1875, when he brought his wife and children to California—moved, no doubt by that same spirit that prompted his father and mother to leave homes of comfort and pioneer the Middle West. The family stopped in Watsonville from May until August, as Mrs. Records had relatives living in Santa Cruz county. The Short family, consisting of her father, mother, three brothers and three sisters, had crossed the plains in an ox-team train from Illinois to California in 1852, arriving in Santa Cruz on October 18, of that year.

Leaving his family in Watsonville, Mr. Records traveled about the country looking for a location and finally decided on the wilderness section in the Arroyo Grande valley near what is now the thriving town of Arroyo Grande. At that time there was but one road or trail over to the coast, and the land was covered with scrub timber, heavy undergrowth and a thick mat

of acres; but he bought one hundred acres, set to work and cleared a farm, raised grain and stock, set out an orchard and later raised beans, and in the long run met with fair success, although he had many discouragements in dry years and in low prices for his products. Here, as in Illinois, he took a decided interest in educational affairs, served as a school trustee and did all that he could to raise the standard of education. Mr. Records died March 21, 1900, and his good wife passed away March 10, 1910.

Their children, who reached maturity, are Laura I., who was married in Illinois, April 1, 1874, to W. H. Findley, and had two children, Flora M. and Mayme B.; Susan E., who became the wife of W. A. Walker, October 31, 1878; Spencer C., of Arroyo Grande; and L. Agnes, who married J. W. Gilliam, September 25, 1890, and had one son, Jack T. All of the children who came with the family to California are now dead except S. C. Records and Mrs. Gilliam.

**DAVID TERRIS, SR.**—One of the best-known and most highly respected old settlers in the vicinity of Paso Robles, and one who has won the respect of everyone who knows him, David Terris is rounding out his scores of years well spent and, with his good wife, is enjoying the evening of life at their comfortable home near Paso Robles. He was born near Dunfermline, Fifeshire, Scotland, November 1, 1842, a son of John and Isabella (Wright) Terris, both of whom were reared and passed their days in Fifeshire. Of their five children born, David is the only one living and the only one who came to California. He had just the advantage of the common schools for his education, grew to manhood on the home farm and in 1870 came to Canada in charge of some full-blooded shorthorn Durham cattle. Landing in Quebec, he remained there about eighteen months, when he went to the blue grass region at Lexington, Kentucky, and there engaged in farming. In October, 1874, he came to California, having heard a great deal about this state while he was in Canada.

Settling in Salinas, he stayed one year there, and then came to his present place near Paso Robles, at that time raw pre-emption land. He built a house, hauling the lumber from Cayucos, dug a well, cleared and plowed the land and put in a crop of grain. While he was paying out on his own place, Mr. Terris worked at chopping wood for different people to make money to live on and to meet expenses. He was industrious, and with the help of his wife, now owns a valuable farm of one hundred and sixty acres, well improved with house, barns and outbuildings. He has an orchard, where he raises fruit for family use, as well as for sale. The homestead is situated in the almond district, and here Mr. Terris has set out thirty-five acres to almond trees.

In April, 1872, at Lexington, Ky., occurred the wedding of David Terris and Miss Janet Mack. She was born in Carnock, Fifeshire, Scotland, a daughter of James and Margaret Mack, lifelong residents of Scotland. To Mr. and Mrs. Terris six children have been born. Maggie died at the age of twenty-one; Mary Ann died when but two years old; David is on the farm; his wife has become Mrs. Dougherty, and lives in Paso Robles; James married Jane Kester, and lives in Paso Robles; Thomas married Bertha Pierce, and lives near Los Angeles.

Mr. Terris served as a school trustee and helped to build the Oak Flat schoolhouse. He is a member of the Odd Fellow lodge at San Miguel,

Past Grand and ex-representative of the Grand Lodge, and served as district deputy. He is also a member of Paso Robles Encampment, and a past officer and ex-representative to the grand encampment. Both he and his wife are members of the Rebekahs and of the Presbyterian church. In politics he is a Democrat in national affairs. Self-made in the fullest sense of the word, beloved by all who know them, Mr. and Mrs. Terris have a host of friends throughout this part of the county.

**JOHN BOYD.**—The largest dealer and shipper of cattle, sheep and hogs in the Santa Maria valley and one of the organizers and a director of the First National Bank of Santa Maria, as well as one of the public-spirited, progressive citizens of Santa Barbara county, is John Boyd, who was born on February 15, 1854, near Enniskillen, Ireland. His mother died when he was but seven years old. He attended the public schools and was reared on the home place until he reached the age of nineteen, when he left home, September 12, 1873, and arrived at Castle Garden on the steamship "City of Montreal."

From New York he journeyed to San Francisco, arriving in the Pacific metropolis twenty-eight days after leaving home. Going into Santa Clara county he worked on a ranch by the month, remaining in the vicinity of San Jose nine years and being in the employ of one man four years, eight months, twenty-three days. He then became a renter, beginning on a small scale; and as his horses increased, he began doing teaming, hauling lumber to San Jose and to the Almaden quicksilver mines from sawmills in the Santa Cruz mountains.

In 1876 he came to Santa Maria valley on a tour of inspection. He returned to San Jose, but in 1881 again came, and bought a ranch of three hundred twenty acres, eight miles east of Santa Maria, which he still owns. In the spring of 1883, he erected a house and moved onto his own land. He began buying and shipping stock as soon as the valley line was completed to Guadalupe; and since then he has had extensive dealings with the packing houses of Los Angeles, with Simon Meiers and Schwarzhild & Sulsberger. He also did the buying for Woodward Bennett, of San Jose, for twelve years, this being his first experience as a buyer of stock; and he still supplies that firm. It is safe to say that Mr. Boyd has bought and shipped more stock out of Santa Maria valley than any other one man. He has become known all over the central coast section of the state as a good judge of stock and a shrewd buyer.

As Mr. Boyd prospered he became interested in various ventures. He helped organize the First National Bank, and has been one of the directors for years. He is a member of Hesperian Lodge, No. 264, F. & A. M., and he and his wife belong to the Eastern Star. They are members of the Presbyterian Church and in politics are Republicans.

At Los Gatos, Mr. Boyd and Miss Jane Griffith were united in marriage; and they have three children: Mrs. Phoebe Atkins, a widow, and a teacher in the grammar school at Santa Maria; Edward W., who manages the home ranch; and Mrs. Cora Croskey of Chino. Mr. and Mrs. Boyd reside in their comfortable home on the corner of South Broadway and Boone streets, Santa Maria, where they enjoy every comfort and are surrounded by their many friends.

**FRANCIS ZIBA BRANCH.**—To the permanent settlement of the West the citizenship of the East has made heavy contributions. From densely populated regions of the Atlantic coast settlers have been drawn to the promise and fertility of the Pacific coast environments. One of these was this pioneer, whose life story can never be fully told, so intricately is it interwoven with the early history of the state and particularly of this county. Francis Z. Branch was born in Scipio, Cayuga county, N. Y., on July 24, 1802. Both of his grandfathers served in the War of the Revolution. At the age of fifteen he left home and went to Buffalo, and for five years found work on sailing vessels of the lakes. Using his experience as a capital with which to begin, he then went to St. Louis, at that time on the western frontier. From there he went with a trading party commanded by Captain Savory, to Santa Fe, N. M., their party consisting of one hundred fifty men, with eighty-two wagons, by which they reached Santa Fe in July, 1830.

That same year Mr. Branch joined a party of trappers under the leadership of William Wolfskill, making the journey from New Mexico by Great Salt lake, across the headwaters of the Red river, which they followed until it emptied into Little Salt lake near the California mountains. It being November, the country was covered with snow, and they found it impossible to cross the Sierras and consequently struck south for the Red river, and through Cajon pass. They were nine days crossing and had to break a path through the snow; they found but few beaver and no game, and soon their provisions gave out, and they were obliged to eat their horses and mules. Finally, reaching the Mojave country, they arrived eventually in San Bernardino, February, 1831, from which point they went on to Los Angeles; and after hunting in the mountains three years, Mr. Branch bought a general merchandise store in Santa Barbara, later selling to Alpheus B. Thompson.

In 1835 he married Doña Manuela Carlona, who was born January 1, 1815, in Santa Barbara, and they settled in San Luis Obispo County in 1839. It was here that he obtained a valuable Spanish grant in 1837, of many thousands of acres located in the Arroyo Grande valley. Later he added to his holdings the Pismo and Huer Huero tracts and raised vast herds of cattle and horses. The dry years of 1862-3-4 caused the loss of some 70,000 head. He held many public offices in the county and died on the Santa Manuela rancho, May 8, 1874. The children born of this marriage were: Ramon, born in 1836; Leandro R., born in 1838; Maria Josefa, born in 1840; Anna L., born in 1842, who married D. F. Newsom; Francisco, born in 1844; Josefa, born in 1846; Manuela, born in 1848; Eduarda, born in 1850, Mrs. E. W. Jones of Arroyo Grande; Jose Frederico, owner of part of the home ranch; Luisa, born in 1856, who married H. A. Sperry; and Ysabela, born in 1857. All are deceased except Ramon, Mrs. E. W. Jones and J. Fred.

Mr. Branch established the first school in Arroyo Grande. He gave one acre of land, erected the building, secured the teacher, and paid all the expenses himself the first year, after which he turned the school over to the county. Part of the old adobe where he lived and raised his children is still standing, being one of the old landmarks of the valley. He was a self-made man, and at one time was one of the wealthiest men in San Luis Obispo county. For additional data regarding his early activities, see the mention made of him in the narrative history.







*George Washington Cannon*

**GERONIMO CARRANZA.** A prominent citizen and rancher of the Santa Maria valley who has performed his part towards the development of the farming resources of Santa Barbara county is Geronimo Carranza, now living in the enjoyment of his hard-earned means in a new and comfortable modern home he completed in 1917 about three miles south of Santa Maria on the lower Orcutt road. He is a native son of California, having been born in San Bernardino county, in that part now included in Riverside county, September 31, 1850, a son of Joseph Carranza, who was born in Mexico near the home of General V. Carranza, of Mexican fame. He was educated in Mexico and there was married to Agapite Tores; and soon afterwards the young couple came to California to carve out their fortunes. They settled in San Bernardino county and farmed for a time, but later moved to San Luis Obispo County and continued raising stock, meeting with a fair degree of success. From there the family went to Lower California, where Mr. Carranza bought a large ranch and engaged in the stock business on a large scale, and where their five children—Saturnina, Geronimo, Feliz, Miguel and Dolores—were educated.

Saturnina married Felisciano Ruiz D'Esparza, who became secretary to General Castro, governor of Lower California, and when, later, the governor was killed, succeeded to the governorship. Affairs were progressing nicely when a revolution set in; the governor was banished to Mexico, and Mr. Carranza's property was confiscated and he and his family were also banished. They all embarked on a vessel and left port, but when three days out on the Pacific they set out for the island of Guadalupe, where they concluded to land and await developments. The island was uninhabited by people except Mr. Carranza and his family, and was a desert waste with thousands of wild goats roaming over its expanse.

There began a Robinson Crusoe life which continued for one year and eleven months before they were rescued. They subsisted on goat's flesh and milk, a native date and the pulp of a species of palm out of which they made bread. After a time their clothes wore out, and the father fashioned clothing for his children, his wife and himself, out of the hides of the goats that they would trap by building a stockade with runways up to the top, where the goats would go in search of date fruit placed inside of the stockade as bait. Once they would jump inside, it was impossible for them to get out. Many of the hides were spotted with black and white and made very beautiful clothing. Shoes were also made out of the hides and tied on with thongs. In the end they sighted a passing schooner, and started a big fire. The smoke attracted the attention of the sailors; and they were rescued and taken to the port of San Quentin, and from there came back to San Diego. There the father died, and after his death his widow and the rest of the family came to the northern part of Santa Barbara county, where the mother passed away at the home of her son on the Suey ranch at the age of eighty-eight years.

After their Robinson Crusoe experience on Guadalupe island, Geronimo Carranza came to the Santa Maria valley and settled in 1873, and since that time has done his part to help build up the country round about. His first experience was in taking horses over into Nevada to dispose of them. Then he began ranching; and as the years passed he gradually widened his acquaintance and circle of friends until today he is one of the best-known men in the

valley, where he has garnered his share of wealth from the soil. In 1900 he leased land on the Suey ranch, and in 1916 his yield of products included seven thousand sacks of barley, eight hundred sacks of beans and one hundred fifty tons of hay, for which he received good prices. He began buying land some time ago, as fast as he could do so, and secured forty acres, where he recently erected his house. This property he has been improving from time to time; and when he is ready to retire, he will have a place to live in comfort the balance of his days.

In 1885 Mr. Carranza was united in marriage with Miss Delphina Ontiveros, a daughter of Patricio Ontiveros, another representative pioneer of the Tepesquet rancho, which his father bought in 1855. Of this union were born Angelina, Riccardo, Amelia, Maria, Erminia, now the wife of Joe Carranza, and Patricio. Mr. Carranza and his family are members of the Catholic Church, and have a wide circle of friends throughout the valley. In 1916 he cast his vote for Woodrow Wilson for President, but in local matters he aims to support the men and measures he considers best suited for the existing conditions near his home. In the Santa Maria valley, where he is known and has lived for so many years, he is highly respected as a true type of manhood.

**JOHN HOUK.**—A self-made man in the truest sense is John Houk of Los Alamos, owner of several ranches, director of the First National Bank of Santa Maria, and stockholder in the Bank of Santa Maria and in the Valley Savings Bank. He has been a resident of the state since 1874, and since the fall of 1899 a tenant on the Todos Santos rancho, owned by the Newhall Land and Farming Co. of San Francisco, where he has twelve hundred acres under plow. A native of Germany, he was born at Billigheim, Bavaria, May 22, 1852, a son of George and Margarite Houk, both natives there, where also they were married. The father came to America, leaving his family behind, and for two years worked in Cincinnati, Ohio, at his trade of horseshoe-nail maker. After he had established himself, he sent for his family, consisting of his wife, three sons, one baby daughter and a stepson; and they sailed via Havre to New Orleans. Arriving at the latter place, in the summer of 1855, the little family embarked on a steamer up the Mississippi river, and while en route to Cincinnati the mother was taken with cholera and died at Cairo, Ill., where she was buried. The daughter also died en route, but the other children continued their journey. On their arrival at Cincinnati they were all, including the half-brother, who was fourteen years old, placed in a German Protestant orphanage, John being then but three years of age. The children remained there until 1859, when the father, who was engaged in nail making in Dayton, O., married again. By this wife he had one son, William, now a banker in Joplin, Mo. The father, aged sixty, died in Monticello, Kan.

John remained under his father's roof until he was fourteen, attending school at the orphan house, where he was taught English and German, and going for a short time to the public schools; but when he was fourteen, he struck out for himself, going to Preble county, Ohio. There he found work on a farm eighteen miles from Dayton. Two years later, in the spring of 1868, he went to Missouri, but eighteen months later moved to Round Rock, Texas. In the fall of 1871 he enlisted with the Texas rangers, and served six months. He continued riding the range and trailing cattle until 1873, when he

went to Kansas. While there he met the girl who later became his wife; and he also became acquainted, in 1873, with Buffalo Bill (William Cody), while he was sheriff of Abilene county, Kansas.

In 1874 Mr. Houk came to California and settled for a time at Roseville, north of Sacramento. He had kept up a correspondence with his lady friend in Kansas, and she came to Sacramento, where they were married, September 28, 1875. The bride was Angeline Howerton, who was born in Johnson county, Ill. Her father, William P. Howerton, a native of Tennessee, came to Illinois with his parents, Benjamin and Elizabeth (Barnum) Howerton, the former being a minister in the Methodist Church as well as a farmer. William P. Howerton married Candace N. Groves; and in 1867 they removed with their children to Johnson county, Kansas, where the father died. The mother came to California and died in Santa Clara county.

In the fall of 1876 the young couple came to the Santa Maria valley, settling first on land that is now a part of the Pinal-Dome property, oil not being dreamed of at that time. He was offered a one hundred sixty acre claim for one hundred dollars, in what is now the heart of Orcutt oil field, then known as the Stubblefield settlement; but coming from the middle west he could not see that it was desirable as he was looking for plow land. He later bought one hundred sixty acres in that settlement on section 9, having a partner, S. J. Graves. At another time he purchased a quarter section near Garey. In 1880, he traded his interest in the land owned with Mr. Graves for one hundred sixty acres near Garey and soon after added a like amount, which he still owns. He has bought land from time to time, as he has been able, and among the various properties he owns is a tract of one hundred thirty-seven acres located three and one half miles west of Lompoc, and thirteen hundred forty acres in Glenn and Butte counties, between Butte creek and Sacramento river, and located in the rice belt. He built the California Garage building in Santa Maria; and this building he owns, together with its site, as well as a block of ground near the depot. In addition, he has other interests scattered about the state. For seventeen years he has operated the Todos Santos ranch, making a specialty of raising grain and beans. He runs five big teams, and has from three hundred to three hundred fifty acres in beans.

Mr. and Mrs. Houk have had eleven children of their own and have reared a niece, Sarah Hazelrig, an orphan child of Mrs. Houk's sister, now the wife of William Bennett of San Benito county. Dora was attending the Los Angeles high school, when she was taken ill and passed away in 1899, aged eighteen; Volney met an accidental death in 1904, aged sixteen. Those living are: Eva, who married Porter Buchanan of Lompoc; Candace, wife of A. E. Dooley, an employe of the Pinal-Dome Oil Co.; Georgia, who became the wife of John Day, an employe of the Pioneer Warehouse Co. at Lompoc; John, who married Amelia Nichols and resides at Lompoc; Fred E., who married Vina Boring, and is farming near Lompoc; William, who operates the home ranch; Burton, who is in partnership with Fred E. Houk; and Weaver and the youngest son Ruby, who are at home.

Mr. Houk is a member of Hesperian Lodge, No. 264, F. & A. M., in Santa Maria, and lives up to the precepts of the order. He is a man of strong character, a deep thinker, unostentatious, kind and considerate of others, and generous in his benefactions. His father cast his vote for Abraham

Lincoln in Dayton, Ohio, though under threat of violence to his life, for feeling ran high over the slavery question. In politics a reformer, Mr. Houk aligns himself with the Progressive Republicans. In religious matters Mr. and Mrs. Houk are firm believers in the Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. As a man and citizen, no one stands higher in the esteem of the people than does John Houk.

**CHARLES ALBERT CASS.**—The oldest son of Captain James Cass, and a native son of the state, Charles Albert Cass was born July 17, 1856, on Lagoon creek, twenty-five miles east of Sacramento, and there for a while attended the public schools. In 1867, he came to San Luis Obispo county with his parents; and they being poor at the time, the lad had to go to work, driving a team that was hauling piles from Cambria during the building of the wharf at Cayucos. The balance of his education, therefore, was acquired in the school of adversity; and that he took advantage of his practical experience, he has ably demonstrated.

When he was past twenty-two, in December, 1878, he began working for wages in the vicinity of Cayucos; later he went to Sonoma county and followed a threshing machine a season; and then he came back home and for over three years worked for his father and others. From 1881 to 1883, he operated a dairy and a farm on shares; and later he engaged in the livery business in Cayucos and "went broke."

In 1885 he settled on the place where he now lives, then unimproved land, and erected buildings and fences, and in other ways improved the place. On the Glenn Brook Ranch, on the summit, he set out the apple orchard that was the pride of his father, and he worked for him for sixteen years. Mr. Cass bought five hundred twenty acres of hill land, and for three years engaged in raising stock; but in 1912 he came back to his father's ranch, leased it on shares and at the present time is successfully operating a dairy and farm of three hundred eighty acres, of which one hundred forty acres is bottom plow land.

On October 20, 1881, Mr. Cass was united in marriage at Guadalupe, this county, with Miss Melissa Ellen Matthews, who was born in Newburgh, Ind., and came to California with her parents in 1875. They had three children: James, deceased, Violet and Henry. Mrs. Cass passed away in July, 1917. Mr. Cass is a Republican in politics, and fraternally is a member of the Cayucos Lodge of Odd Fellows. Like all native sons, he is interested in the upbuilding of the state and county, and in the preservation of the history of the pioneers, who are fast passing away. By his own efforts, he has risen in the world and become one of the prosperous citizens of the county.

**HARRY D. DRAPER.**—A former railroad man, and a pioneer conductor of the coast division of the Southern Pacific Railroad, Harry D. Draper is now living in the enjoyment of a competence won by hard work and close attention to business. He was born in Jackson, Mich., May 17, 1842, a son of Alfred D. Draper, a native of Erie county, N. Y., who was born near Buffalo, and was one of the early settlers in that part of Michigan. He shipped his goods across the lake and thence by ox teams and wagons, fording streams and rivers, to Jackson, near where he bought land from the government and carried on general farming, improving a farm of three hundred acres, and building a log house, in which the family lived. The coun-



Mr. & Mrs. C. L. Davis  
Richmond



try was wild and unsettled, wolves howled about their cabin, and the father would shoot deer from his doorway. He helped drive the Chippewa Indians out of his section. Finally retiring from active work, he moved to the town, where he passed away at the age of seventy years. He married Eliza Doney, who was born in Clarence Hollow, near Buffalo, N. Y., and died in Jackson, Mich. They had eleven children, nine of whom grew to maturity, and seven of whom are still living.

Harry D. Draper, the third oldest child in his father's family, was reared to young manhood on his father's farm, educated in the public schools and early became accustomed to the rude conditions of pioneer life. When he was sixteen, he went out to work for wages on the farms in the locality, and then worked in the timber at Saginaw, and Bay City salt wells, and for two years on flat-boats, and in 1860 went to St. Paul, Minn., and for another two years worked on the Mississippi river boats at night. He then took up railroad work for the Illinois Central at Amboy, Ill., as a brakeman, and three years later entered the employ of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, running a train from Clinton, Ia., to Chicago as conductor; and this he followed for the next eighteen years. In 1882, Mr. Draper went to Dakota and took up a homestead, remaining for eighteen months; and in 1884, we find him in California in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad as freight conductor on the coast division from Castroville to the end of the line. He later became a passenger conductor running to Santa Margarita, and still later from San Luis Obispo to the end of the line, which was at Surf, and on down as the building progressed.

In July, 1896, Mr. Draper resigned from the railroad and located on his present ranch, which he had purchased some years previously and upon which he has made all the improvements, erecting residence, barns and out-buildings. His forty acres is located across the Salinas river from Paso Robles. He was formerly owner of three hundred twenty acres which he devoted to the raising of thoroughbred Guernsey cattle, having a dairy of thirty-five head of high-grade cows. He made a success of his operations and did much to induce men to work into a higher grade of cows than they formerly had. He devoted his entire time to his stock, enjoying his work and making it profitable.

Mr. Draper was united in marriage in San Luis Obispo with Mrs. Leonora (Lemon) Livingston, who was born in Woodland, Yolo county. Her father, John Lemon, was a native of Kentucky, who crossed the plains in 1847 to California, engaged in stock-raising in Yolo county, and then went to Pendleton, Ore., where he continued his business until his death there. His wife, Mary Huff, was born in Georgia, came to California in 1850, married in Woodland and now is living in San Jose, hale and hearty at the age of seventy-seven years. She had seven children, Mrs. Draper being the second oldest. The latter attended school in Yolo county and there married Mr. Livingston, who was a wholesale butcher. They resided in San Francisco, where she conducted a hotel; and after moving to San Luis Obispo she managed the Cosmopolitan Hotel.

Mr. Draper was made a Mason in Emulation Lodge in Clinton, Ia., was transferred to Castroville Lodge and is now demitted. He is a Republican in politics, but never has aspired to office. He is a self-made man who has seen much of the world, and is decided in his opinion that the Golden State



more energetic men and women than any other place in the country. At the organization of the Republican party in 1854, Mr. Draper's father was a delegate to the convention that was held under the

**ARCHIBALD McNEIL.**—Conspicuous among the residents of Santa Maria, to whose energy and perseverance in the midst of obstacles and innumerable hardships may be attributed much of the advance made by the central coast regions, is the name of Archibald McNeil, owner of the Santa Maria Flouring Mill, president of the First National Bank, and president of the library board of Santa Maria. He was born near London, Middlesex county, Canada, January 12, 1846, a son of Peter McNeil, born in Argyleshire, Scotland, who, as a sailor for some years along the coast of Norway and Sweden, often beheld the "midnight sun." He also sailed the coast of Great Britain. He was a farmer also, as were his forebears in Scotland, and in 1832 came with his wife and one child to Canada, bought one hundred acres of heavily timbered land, cleared it and farmed there. Wild game abounded in that wilderness and he kept the larder filled with meat, often shooting deer from the window of their cabin; wolves would come into his clearing after the sheep, and it required constant vigil in order to raise stock. He married Henrietta Beaton, who was likewise born in Argyleshire; and they had ten children, all of whom grew to maturity. They were: Flora, John, Catherine, Mary, Hugh, Duncan, Janet, Archibald, Isabelle, and Peter. The family were all Presbyterians.

The eighth child born to his parents, Archibald McNeil, received but little regular schooling in the wilds where their little Canadian farm was located, his mother being his only teacher. When he was old enough to swing an axe, he was set to work cutting timber in the effort to clear the land, and continued hard at work there until he was twenty. Then he was apprenticed, at Napier, Canada, to learn the miller's trade, and served three years under James G. Sutherland, one of the finest men in the country, and his good wife, a most excellent lady. They took this rough timber lad into their own home and hearts, and became much interested in his welfare, and gave him his start in life.

After serving his apprenticeship, Mr. McNeil went to Indiana, where he spent the years 1868-69; and in 1870 he came to California, arriving on May 12 in Sacramento. He went to Chico and worked two seasons for General John Bidwell in his mill, and in 1873 went to Marysville and was employed as miller in the Marysville Flouring Mills. That same year he went to Oroville and took charge of the mill owned by George Perkins and Max Brooks, the former of whom was afterwards governor of the state, and still later served as a United States senator from California. Mr. McNeil remained as head miller until 1882. The original mill burned down in 1879, and Mr. McNeil planned the new mills, looked after their construction and assumed his position after they were finished. Resigning in 1882, he came south to look for an opening for himself.

He arrived at Santa Maria, found an opening in the valley, as it was the center of a rich grain section, and with John Adams established the Santa Maria Flour Mills. They erected the building; and for about nineteen years the firm of Adams & McNeil continued without a change except in the enlargement of their establishment and the addition of modern machinery as it

came on the market. In 1900 Mr. McNeil bought out his partner and has since remained sole proprietor. He has large warehouses in Santa Maria, and buys and stores grain for his mill at different places along the Pacific Coast Railway.

Mr. McNeil was one of the prime movers in organizing the First National Bank, was elected its president at the beginning and has since held that responsible position; and by his conservative methods he has become a bulwark in the institution in which he is so deeply interested. He has been extensively interested in the oil business, and has been an officer in various oil companies; but as a whole the oil venture has been a disappointment to him. First of all, he is a first-class miller, and the mills have been the basis of his wealth and the center of his pride; and next in his attention and interest comes the banking business.

He has always been interested in all good movements for the betterment of the community, was one of the men who were largely instrumental in securing the Carnegie library, and has been president of the library board for years. He has always been a devoted friend of education and has served for many years as a member of the boards of trustees of the grammar and high schools, and for a number of years was secretary of the board of trustees of the high school. Mr. McNeil was appointed a member of the board of trustees of the California Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo by Governor Gillette, and held the position through both administrations of Governor Johnson, and for over six years he has been president of the board. He is a trustee of the Presbyterian Church, of which he and his wife are regular attendants. He is a stand-pat Republican, but has always refused public office, although serving on the Republican County Central Committee for years. Mr. McNeil is prominent in fraternal matters. He belongs to San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. Elks, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Foresters of Santa Maria.

February 21, 1876, Mr. McNeil was united in marriage with Margaret Morrison, daughter of Warren and Nancy (Tobin) Morrison, and they have four children: Flora, the wife of L. P. Scaroni; Edwina, who is employed in the Santa Maria Bank; Warren, superintendent of the flouring mills, who married Blanche Schwabacher; and Margaret, who is married to L. C. Palmtag of Santa Maria. The happiest moments of Mr. McNeil's life are spent in the home, where he has the companionship of his good wife and the society of their many friends.

**WILLIAM TYLER EDDY.**—A veteran of the Civil War and a worthwhile citizen of San Luis Obispo County in Templeton, where he is now living, retired, after many years of activity in various parts of our Union, William T. Eddy is spending his last years in the enjoyment of a competence and the association of many friends. He was born at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., August 31, 1840, a son of David Eddy, also born there, and a grandson of James Eddy, a native of Rhode Island, of Quaker belief, who settled in New York and engaged in farming on Parmerton mountain range. David Eddy was a stone mason and plasterer by trade, and also a farmer in Saratoga Springs, and he moved thence to Mt. Morris, Livingston county, N. Y., in 1852. He followed farming and his trades, and died there at the age of forty-six. He had married Susan White, who was born in Saratoga Springs, a daughter of Joseph White, a native of New Hampshire of English descent who settled

in Saratoga Springs, engaged in building and contracting, and the manufacture of brick, and died at an advanced age. Susan Eddy died in Michigan, and of her seven children three are living—William Tyler being the second oldest of all.

After completing his studies in the public schools at Mt. Morris and in the Mt. Morris Academy, William Eddy took up the trade of plasterer, and of stone and brick mason; and while thus peacefully engaged in his vocation, in 1861 he heard and responded to the call to arms. In October he enlisted in Company C, 89th New York Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered into the service at Elmira, November 6, 1861. He took part in the battles of Antietam, South Mountain, and Fredericksburg; in the siege of Fort Sumter; and in the battles of Cold Harbor and Fair Oaks; and saw five months' service in front of Petersburg. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he was mustered out at Chapins Farm, Va., November 6, 1864. He had been in thirteen distinct engagements, was corporal, then sergeant, then first orderly sergeant, and March 23, 1863, was promoted and commissioned first lieutenant of his company for meritorious service. After he had been honorably discharged he went back to Mt. Morris and later engaged in operating in the oil fields in Warren and Franklin counties, Penn., until, in 1867, he went to Savannah, Andrew county, Mo., and was employed at his trade.

Mr. Eddy was united in marriage in Savannah, Mo., February 25, 1869, with Miss Achsah A. Ely. She was born in Batavia, Ohio, and traces the Ely family back to the Island of Ely, off the coast of England, in the tenth century. The name is also among the early settlers of New Jersey. Mrs. Ely is the daughter of William and Mary Ann (Robinson) Ely, natives of New Jersey and England respectively. They emigrated with their family to Shelby county, Ind., and thence to Missouri, and in March, 1865, settled two miles from Savannah, where Mrs. Ely passed away in November, 1871. Mr. Ely afterwards moved to the vicinity of Macon, Mo., and there died, in January, 1881, at the age of seventy-eight years. Mrs. Eddy had two brothers, Daniel J. and John Ely, who served in the Civil War, the former in the Third Indiana and the latter in the Sixteenth Indiana regiment.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Eddy, they bought a farm six miles north of what became Maitland, Holt county, Mo.; and Mr. Eddy followed agriculture until 1886, when he moved to Pueblo, Colo., and engaged in market gardening until 1889. He then decided to come to California, and on his arrival in the state settled in San Jose. Soon, however, he took up his chosen occupation and farmed near that city until July 16, 1891, when he bought one hundred three acres near Templeton, San Luis Obispo County, and here engaged in raising grain and stock. In 1910 he sold the ranch and purchased his present home in Templeton, where he and his wife live in the enjoyment of the competency won through their labors of many years.

They became parents of four children. David M. is a bookkeeper for a copper mining company at Kennett; James A. was a successful farmer and stockman of Templeton, until his death in 1911; Samuel W., farmer and stockman, is also a realty operator in Paso Robles; and Joseph W., following the same lines of activity, resides in Templeton. Mr. Eddy has always been interested in the cause of education in the various localities in which he has lived. In Holt county, Mo., he was a member and president of the town-





Catherine J. Gust.



W. A. Gust

ship board of education for many years; and he was for seven years a member of the board of trustees of Bethel school district, serving six years as clerk of the board. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He was an active Republican for years, but now supports the Prohibition ticket. Both he and his good wife have a large circle of friends in their locality who enjoy their companionship and who highly prize their friendship.

**MICHAEL GERST.**—What Michael Gerst can tell you about pioneer days when there were more trees and bushes than clearings upon the land, and coyotes and perhaps mountain lions and bears jumped around and howled about the windows of one's shack—and for a while there wasn't even any shack—while you stirred your coffee with sugar that made the coffee still blacker (and very frequently there wasn't any sugar, and perhaps you didn't always pack up enough coffee, either) and you had to do things yourself instead of having them done, and it cost two prices for everything and especially for all the modern comforts you may now enjoy on your well-cultivated ranch—well; just what Michael can tell you, you must learn for yourself by sitting down with him and letting him talk; for he is an interesting conversationalist and you will get a very instructive story.

A native of the even then great city of New York, Michael was born January 1, 1850, the son of John and Theresa (Hooker) Gerst. His father was a carpenter who followed the builders' trade in New York up until twenty years ago, when he died there. He enjoyed an enviable reputation both as an honorable, plain citizen and as a boss pattern maker in one of the large foundries. Theresa Gerst bore three children, of whom Michael was the youngest. His mother died when he was a baby; and his father later married Miss Gertrude Hooker, a sister of his first wife, from which union there was born one daughter. Michael was brought up in the metropolis, was educated in its public schools, that is until he was ten years old, and then was put to work in a factory.

Seven years later, in 1867, he journeyed west to Norwalk, O., and lived there with a farmer until he was twenty-one, resuming his schooling in the winters. This farm work in Ohio he continued until 1873, when, as the only member of his family to come to the Coast, he pushed on still further westward and arrived in California in April, 1873. For a while he was employed in Tulare county by the railroad company; and then he went to San Jose, where he worked on a farm for nearly two years.

Coming to Paso Robles in May, 1875, he entered the employ of J. H. Blackburn at the Paso Robles grant, and was made, first a foreman and then superintendent of farming. At that time there was very little in the country but vast ranches devoted to stock-raising. Nine years later he homesteaded for himself, taking up a hundred twenty acres in the Oak Flat district, five and a half miles west of what is now Paso Robles. He moved onto the wild land, cleared it up and improved it; and with the same heroic effort which has contributed so much to develop California from a wild into a highly cultivated state, he brought his land under profitable cultivation, adding to the original purchase until he had a ranch of three hundred seventy-five acres. One of the pioneer fruit growers of this district, he soon had thirty acres of orchard devoted to almonds, peaches, prunes, figs and vineyard, making one of the first commercially successful orchards in the district, and such a show orchard for real estate men that they brought pros-

... miles away to demonstrate the resources of the upper Salinas valley for fruit raising. As the product of his labor and ranch, Mr. Gerst in 1903 exhibited almonds at the St. Louis Exposition, and received a medal and diploma for the finest almonds shown from this or any other country.

It was very natural that with such experience and proficiency, Mr. Gerst should become one of the organizers of the Upper Salinas Valley Fair, serving as its first president and bringing large crowds to Paso Robles to see fine stock, farm products and fruit. He has ever since been an exhibitor, at least until he sold his ranch in 1913, and so has given practical demonstration of his method of boosting. For several years he was road master in his district and from 1894 to 1904 was deputy county assessor, and was deputy government census enumerator in 1900. In 1913, after selling his ranch, Mr. Gerst moved to a very comfortable residence at the corner of Fifteenth and Spring streets, Paso Robles.

On June 2, 1882, at Paso Robles, Mr. Gerst was united in marriage with Miss Catherine Janet Botts, a native of Missouri and a sister of John Botts, whose biographical sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume. Mrs. Gerst was reared and educated in Greene county, Ind., and came to California in 1881. Six children resulted from this happy marriage: Zorada Belle, now Mrs. Patterson of San Francisco; Michael Edgar, in charge of Fair Oaks ranch as foreman of the orchard; Mildred Dorothy, residing with her parents; Althea Irene, Mrs. Fred Nelson of Oak Flat; Fredus Elwood, one of the proprietors of the Paso Robles Garage; and John Burton, who is also at home.

Mr. Gerst is a Mason, being a member of Paso Robles Lodge No. 286, and the first man made a Mason in that lodge. A Republican whose advice is often sought, Mr. Gerst has served with honor for twenty years as a school trustee of the Oak Flat district. Sad enough is it to relate of such a worthy pioneer that some years ago his eyesight failed, and ever since he has been denied much pleasure accorded to others. The silver lining of the dark cloud, however, is that his faithful wife never tires of reading to him the daily papers and current literature, thereby enabling him to keep himself unusually well-informed and abreast of the times, and to maintain his part in almost any conversation, both to the delight and to the instruction of the visitor.

**CHARLOTTE M. (ASHBAUGH) THOMPSON.**—Conspicuous among the transformations wrought during the latter part of the nineteenth century and the opening years of the twentieth has been the entrance of women into commercial affairs. There are now few occupations and few professions in which at least a few women have not gained distinctive success, and more and more it is being recognized that the mental capacities of the sex are far broader than former ages supposed. Scattered through California are women who alone and unaided have gained success in their chosen callings. In the list of business women of San Luis Obispo and environs appears the name of Mrs. Charlotte M. Thompson, who for almost twenty years has carried on a successful millinery business in Paso Robles.

She was born in Hamilton, Ontario, a daughter of John and Mathilda (Forsythe) Ashbaugh, the former born in Alabama, of a fine old Southern family. He went to Ontario and engaged in farming. Their daughter Char-

lotte was reared in Ontario and attended the public and high schools, completing her education in Mount Pleasant Academy, near Hamilton; and there she was married to William Thompson, a native of Ontario.

In 1868, they came to Santa Cruz, California, where Mr. Thompson was proprietor of a hotel for many years. In 1898, they arrived in Paso Robles, and the following year Mrs. Thompson started her present millinery business here. By personal application to the minutest details, and by the exercise of native tact and ability, she has built up the best trade of that kind in the city, drawing her patrons from all over the valley within a radius of more than fifty miles. At one time she had branch stores in King City and San Lucas, but discontinued them to give all her attention to building up her business in Paso Robles, where she is centrally located on Park street. At the local fairs, she has had exhibits that have always received favorable comment as being the most beautiful displayed; and she takes a just pride in her success, as it has been the result of her own efforts and talents.

Outside her own business she is interested in lodge work, being a member and Noble Grand of Ysabel Rebekah Lodge, No. 217, and Past Matron of Idlewild Chapter, No. 19, O. E. S., in Santa Cruz. Mrs. Thompson bought the lot and erected her home, "The Pines," on Pine street. She is public-spirited and charitable, and supports all enterprises that she thinks will advance the county in the commercial world, and help to bring in settlers to develop its resources.

Mrs. Thompson's son, Charles Sydney, is a graduate of Stanford University, class of 1905, with the degree of A. B., his major subject having been ornithology. After a year as principal of schools in Colorado, he came to Los Angeles, since which time he has been a teacher of sciences in that city. In early boyhood, he began making a collection of birds and birds' eggs, and is now the possessor of one of the finest collections in the Southwest Museum, Los Angeles, and for that matter in California. He was united in marriage in Alameda with Miss Alma Hand of Alameda, and they have one child—a daughter, Charlotte V.—who is the pride of the home circle, and particularly of her grandmother.

**JONAH HOUGHTON.**—The late Jonah Houghton was a pioneer of the state of California who, in the days of the gold excitement, made a trip from his native town of Anson, Maine, where he was born on May 15, 1839. After he had tried his luck at mining with the varied success usually attached to that precarious calling, he went back to his eastern home and remained until 1862, when he came once more to the Coast, via Panama. From that date he remained an earnest advocate of the Golden State.

For the first twelve years of his residence here, he was superintendent of the Flint & Bixby ranch at Creston, and with the proceeds of his labors he made a purchase, in 1876, of six hundred acres of land near Los Berros and began for himself, devoting his land to the raising of hogs. He built a hog-tight fence around his ranch, and raised grain and hay. He became owner, too, of other valuable properties in the West. He had seventy seven acres of bottom land in Los Berros and another ranch of one hundred sixty acres near by, and also owned land near Tacoma, Wash., and three lots in San Francisco as well as lots in Arroyo Grande and San Luis Obispo. This property was obtained by purchase, with the returns from careful management



of the family property, which received his undivided attention. He was called a very successful farmer, and when he passed away, December 23, 1896, the county lost one of its progressive pioneer citizens.

In 1870 Mr. Houghton made a trip back to his boyhood home and on August 5 of that same year married Miss Maria Remick, who was born in Stark, Maine, December 30, 1852. They had five children: Mrs. Ollie Ketchum, of Arroyo Grande; Mrs. Mamie Ware, of Berkeley; Mrs. Gertrude Johnson, of Oakland; Hattie, of Berkeley; and George A., who is carrying on the home ranch. The mother is living in Berkeley.

**GEORGE A. HOUGHTON.**—A worthy son of his father, George A. Houghton was born in Creston in 1873, and was educated in the public schools of the county. At an early age he became associated with his father in farming, and continued with him until his death, when he became manager of his father's properties. On the six-hundred-acre ranch he had a dairy of one hundred and ten cows that yielded good returns. Mr. Houghton manufactured cheese, and also raised cattle and hogs. In 1913 he sold his cows and now makes a specialty of hogs, having Berkshire and Poland China strains. The ranch is valued at seventy dollars per acre, and in 1915 produced four hundred sacks of beans, three thousand sacks of barley, one hundred tons of hay, seventy head of cattle, twenty-five head of horses and five hundred hogs.

From his early association with his father, George A. Houghton became an expert on the raising of hogs; and with this knowledge he has devoted his time and attention to the industry that has meant so profitable a business. Like his father he has been a progressive citizen and has made a name for himself in the county, where he spent his entire life, and where he has made a host of friends by his sound business judgment and fair dealings with his fellow men. He keeps the ranch and buildings in the best of repair, and under his able management the value of the property is increasing each year.

**CHARLES FINK.**—Besides an honored name, Charles Fink left a legacy of a well-directed life to those nearest and dearest to him. He was a pioneer of 1849 in California, having crossed the plains with his step-father, who was a Mr. Miller, his mother, whose maiden name was Mary Wagner, her son John Fink, and her three daughters. There was a large train of ox-teams that left the east for the long and dangerous trip over desert, mountain and plain; and in due time they arrived at their destination, stopping for a time in the Placerville section where Charles and his brother John mined and ran a butcher shop for a number of years with good success.

The young man wanted to see his native country, Germany, where he was born in 1835, in Baden; so after he had made some money, he went back for a visit. But he soon returned to California, and in Sacramento he was united in marriage with Miss Sarah Holmes, whose parents were pioneers of Eldorado county, they having settled in Pleasant Valley upon their arrival in the state in the days of the early mining excitement. Soon after his marriage, Mr. Fink secured employment with the parties who had the contract to build the telegraph line from Sacramento to Salt Lake City, remaining with them until the work was done.

He came to San Luis Obispo in 1869 when he came to San Luis Obispo; and in that city, which was then a small hamlet with a few houses of adobe and wood

clustered about the old mission, he started a restaurant, but soon turned it into a hotel that was known as Hotel Fink, one of the first hotels in the place.

In 1876 he went to the Arroyo Grande valley and purchased some land, adding to it until he owned, at one time, two hundred seventy acres. This he improved with buildings, grubbed out the brush and vines, and began farming, continuing until his death in May, 1907. He and his wife left five children: Mrs. Mamie McNeil; Mrs. Maude Haskins; Mrs. Flora Clevenger; Carl; and Mrs. Sadie Pruitt. Mrs. Fink died in March, 1907, aged about fifty-nine years.

**CARL FINK.**—Carl Fink, the only son of Charles and Sarah (Holmes) Fink, was born September 3, 1883, on the old home ranch, from which he attended the public school. He worked on the farm, being accustomed from a lad to hard work, and also worked for wages. Finally he bought from his grandmother sixty-five acres of the old home place, leased other land, and here carries on a dairy, raising beans, alfalfa and general farm produce, and is making a name for himself in the county where his entire life has been passed. He is a stockholder and a director of the Arroyo Grande Commercial Company. He was united in marriage with Miss Dora Stevens, a native of the county and a daughter of Charles Stevens; and they have two children, Charles S. and Evelyn M.

**ROBERT WESLEY EARL.**—Active in movements for the uplift of humanity and the development of the county, Robert W. Earl is counted a popular and progressive citizen. A native of Canada, he was born in Montreal, December 19, 1859, a son of fairly well-to-do parents, Duncan and Esther (Reilley) Earl, natives of Canada, of Scotch and Irish extraction, respectively. The former was a farmer and well-driller, who moved to Lee county Ill., in 1860, where he farmed until 1872, when he came to California. He stopped in Placer county for a short time and then spent two years in Gilroy.

In the fall of 1876 the family settled in the Santa Maria valley, where Mr. Earl took up a homestead of one hundred sixty acres, proved up on it and farmed, and lived to be eighty-three. His wife passed away at the age of seventy-six. Their children are: Robert W., of this review; Mary, one of the trustees of the Union high school, president of the Minerva Literary Club and widow of John Winter; Lizzie, the wife of Matt Jessee; Lulu, who married Bert Ward of San Jose; and Chancey, on the Suey ranch. Grandfather Reilley was born in Ireland and settled in Lee county, Ill., at an early day, and lived to be an aged man.

The eldest of five children, Robert W. Earl was a babe in arms when his parents left Canada and settled in Illinois. He attended the public school of Lee county until fourteen, and then accompanied the family to California and grew up to man's estate in the Santa Maria valley. Upon leaving home, he farmed the G. Muscio ranch twenty-one years, and the Fugler ranch for ten years, and in 1916 moved into Santa Maria. In 1904, Mr. Earl was appointed by the board of supervisors as road supervisor of this district, and he has held the position ever since. He is an experienced road builder, who has under his direction road-making machinery to the value of over \$15,000, and employs many men and several road overseers. His roads compare favorably with those in other sections of the county. He is conscientious in the discharge of his duties and is well liked by all who know him.

Mr. Earl was married in Santa Maria to Miss Nettie Norris, a daughter of John Richard and Mary (Mattingly) Norris. The former was born in Virginia, later went to Missouri, and in 1849 crossed the plains to California. He mined for a time in Mariposa county and after that settled in Sonoma county, where he married. His wife was a native of Missouri. They came to the Santa Maria valley in 1878, lived for a time in Guadalupe, and later moved to the vicinity of the present site of Orcutt. In their family were ten children: Robert, of Orcutt; Alex, who died at the age of sixteen; Mary, the widow of Calvin Drumm, who lives at Orcutt; Emma, living with her brother John; Nettie, now Mrs. Earl; Eliza, the widow of George Klink, who resides in Santa Maria; Edward, of Mariposa county; Mattie, Mrs. A. J. Downs, of Santa Maria; Jesse, who died aged four years; and John M. a rancher in the Orcutt district.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl have five children: Fred; Mable, the wife of Frank H. Gates of Santa Maria; Alice, who married William Grant of Santa Maria; John Robert; and Lottie, who married Aden Johnston of Santa Maria.

Mr. Earl is prominent in fraternal circles, is a member of Hesperian Lodge No. 264, F. & A. M., and was master the year preceding that in which the union with the old Santa Maria Lodge was consummated. He has passed all the chairs in the Knights of Pythias, and is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters. With Mrs. Earl he is a member and past patron of the local chapter, Eastern Star, of which she is past matron, and both belong to the Pythian Sisters. Mr. Earl is an old-line Republican and upholds the tenets of the party at all times. He is a self-made man, has succeeded as a rancher and is now able to retire to enjoy a well-earned rest, although looking after the roads of the district, which keeps him fairly busy.

**ABRAM MUSCIO.**—The success and standing in the community that have come to Mr. Muscio since he landed in San Luis Obispo County speak volumes for his sterling traits of character. He was unfamiliar with the English language, and for a time had to send his savings back to his parents in Switzerland. In spite of these and many other hindrances, he has become one of the largest property owners and substantial citizens of the county.

He was born in Someo, canton Ticino, Switzerland, March 12, 1849, the youngest of nine children of his parents, who were poor people. For this reason he received but a limited education, and when he was seventeen he left home, in November, 1866, and came to the United States, the land of "golden opportunity." California was his objective point, and he at once proceeded to this state by way of Panama, crossing the isthmus by rail and arriving in San Francisco on January 12, 1867. The boat on which he was a passenger took twenty-two days to come up the coast from Panama. Abram Muscio went at once to Marin county, where many of his countrymen had already located; and his first year was spent on a dairy ranch where he became acquainted with the business and in the meantime learned to speak some English.

In 1869, with his brother David, he engaged in dairying near Petaluma, the ranch being located about on the line of Sonoma and Marin counties. The next year, with B. Tomasini, he leased land, bought one hundred ten milk cows, and until 1876 ran a dairy near Point Reyes station. Then he disposed of his holdings and came to San Luis Obispo County. On his arrival, he leased land north of Cayucos, stocking the twelve hundred

eighty-six acres with about one hundred seventy five head of dairy stock, and so successful was he with the business that in 1884 he was able to buy the entire ranch, which he still owns.

As soon as he became a landowner he began needed improvements by adding to the house, and building barns and a modern dairy house. He set out an orchard and ornamental trees, and made of his place a first-class dairy and home ranch. From time to time he has added to his holdings and now owns six hundred seventy-two acres on Toro creek, six hundred seventy acres on Villa creek, eleven hundred thirty acres near Cayucos, and about fourteen hundred acres near Morro. All of this land is devoted to the stock and dairy business, and to grain raising. With three partners, Mr. Muscio bought a ranch of seventeen hundred acres near Santa Ynez, Santa Barbara county, which was improved and carried on as a dairy and stock ranch until they sold it several years ago. Today he is the owner of five thousand one hundred fifty-eight acres of land, all acquired by his own efforts.

But the management of his landed interests does not represent the extent of Mr. Muscio's activities; he is a stockholder and a director in the Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo, and was connected with the Dairymen's Union of San Francisco and, for a time, with the banking interests of that city. He was one of the organizers and one of the first directors of the Bank of Cambria; but when he moved to town he resigned from the board. As a trustee of his school district he aided materially in building up the Someo school, giving it the name of his native town; he assisted with the building of the Catholic church of Cayucos, and in every way has shown his interest in the upbuilding of the county. He has been a Mason for the past thirty-five years, holding membership in San Simeon Lodge No. 196, F. & A. M. He is a member of San Luis Chapter No. 62, R. A. M., and of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. Elks.

In San Francisco, June 25, 1871, Abram Muscio was married to Assonta Righetti, who, like himself, is a native of Switzerland and born in the same town. Of this union six children have been born. They have been given every educational advantage to make them useful men and women. Dante is cashier of the Calaveras County Bank; and Romilio R. is vice-president of the Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo. Both these young men were sent to Europe for four years, to complete their education; and they can speak Italian, French and German fluently. Both are graduates of Heald's Business College of San Francisco. Sila, a graduate of King's Conservatory of Music of San Jose, is the wife of J. Maino; Lillian graduated from the State Normal, and is teaching in the public schools of San Luis Obispo; Adina is a graduate of the San Luis Obispo Business College, and Florence is a graduate of the same institution and of Mills College, at Oakland, and both reside at home.

After a long and useful career, Mr. Muscio retired from active participation in business in 1907 and is enjoying the fruits of his labors in his beautiful home—one of the finest in the city—purchased from J. J. Crocker and located at 793 Bushon street. He is respected as a self-made man by all who know him. He attends to his own business, making frequent trips to his properties, and spends such time as he can at the old home, to which he is much attached, and he is much interested in stock and land. Mr. Muscio is a Republican.

**MRS. LUCY GILLIS.**—It is interesting to chronicle the life history of a woman who has made a success of farming and stock-raising, in spite of the odds against her at times, and who, by her energy and foresight, has become well-to-do and prominent. Such a woman is Mrs. Lucy Gillis, who has been a resident of San Luis Obispo County since 1879. She was born near Kahoka, Clark county, Mo., a daughter of James and Louisa (Lucas) McKenzie, natives of Kentucky and Indiana respectively, who became farmers in Missouri, where the father died. Her mother was again married, her second husband being Peter Gillis, who had returned from a trip to California, where he was a cattle-raiser and dairyman near San Simeon, in San Luis Obispo County. He had been a pioneer of this state, having crossed the plains with ox teams in 1855, locating first near what is now Dixon, Solano county, where he remained until about 1868, when he moved to San Luis Obispo County and engaged in dairying and raising stock. There his first wife, Nancy Emily Webb, passed away. Having married again, Peter Gillis returned to California and resumed his vocation on his ranch; and there his second wife passed away when she was about sixty-five years old. Mr. Gillis died at the home of Mrs. Lucy Gillis, in the Red Hills, at the age of eighty-two.

Mrs. Gillis was the youngest of the McKenzie children, the others being Frank, who lives on the old farm in Clark county, Mo.; Wilbur, who is in Blackton, Ia.; Mrs. Lizzie Pullins, who died in Missouri and one of whose seven children, Polk Pullin, came to California and is now engaged as a partner with Mrs. Gillis; Mrs. Jane Lucas, who died in Missouri; Nancy, Mrs. Rowe, who resides in Portland; and Albert, who is a resident of Lompoc, Cal. Mrs. Gillis was brought up in Missouri and was educated in the public schools of her time. Though having limited advantages, she has acquired a liberal education by private reading and study. She was united in marriage at San Simeon, in 1887, to Polk Gillis, a native of Iowa, who was a California pioneer of 1854, when he, with other members of his family, came across the plains with ox teams and wagons. He settled in Solano county, where he began general farming and raising stock. Coming to San Simeon, he engaged in the dairy business, and is recognized as one of the pioneers in that special department of agriculture in this section of the county.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Gillis continued ranching and dairying for five years, milking about one hundred fifty cows, panning the milk, skimming by hand and churning with horse power, and then making the butter into rolls, and packing and shipping it to San Francisco. The water for scalding the pans was heated in a large boiler, and all the work that is now done by machinery was done by hand. In 1885 they sold out their dairy and moved to the Red Hills section above Shandon, the headquarters for their operations since that time, where they pre-empted one hundred sixty acres and also homesteaded a like amount. It was here that Mr. Gillis died, June 7, 1906, aged sixty-four years.

During the years that Mrs. Gillis has lived here, she has been at the helm in the management of affairs; land has been added from time to time, and the prairie has been broken up and sown to grain, usually netting good returns. The ranch now comprises about twenty-five hundred sixty acres, and is located in what is known as Gillis cañon, about nine miles from Shandon in the Red Hills. The place is well fenced and is watered by numerous springs



*Mrs Lucy Gillis*



and creeks; and the stock that is raised here is of the best grade. One thousand acres is under the plow, and three hundred fifty acres is sown to wheat each season. The cattle are Herefords and Durhams, and the well-known brand, bar LP, is her personal mark of ownership. In her farming operations, she is associated with her nephew, Polk Pullins, who gives his personal attention to the stock and to the farm.

One child was born to Mrs. Gillis—Elbert, a farmer and stockman in Gillis cañon. She has always been interested in the cause of education and is serving as a member of the school board of the Alliance district. Since becoming a citizen of the county, more than thirty-eight years ago, she has witnessed many changes and improvements in farming, besides changes in the citizenry of the county, where she is well and favorably known.

**CHARLES A. CHEADLE.**—The leading poultry ranch of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties is owned by Charles A. Cheadle, founder of the Berros Cove Poultry Ranch, the largest of its kind in the two counties. Mr. Cheadle was born in Pike county, Ill., November 21, 1857, a son of George L. and Sarah Jane Cheadle, both of whom are now living retired in Santa Maria at the ages of eighty-three and seventy-nine respectively. Their six living children are Mrs. Zella Connor, of Nebraska; Mrs. Nettie Griffin, of Tucson, Ariz.; Mrs. Annie Ables, of Orange county, Cal.; George W., of Santa Maria; Charles A.; and William.

The father crossed the plains to California with ox-teams in 1863, and settled at Danville, Contra Costa county, where he started blacksmithing and built up a fine business, running three forges. He was the pioneer of his trade in that town, and in 1870 sold out and began farming at the Cottonwoods, fifteen miles southwest of Hill's Ferry, Merced county; and from there he went to Tulare county, and in that part now embraced in Kings county took up a government claim of one hundred and sixty acres near Hanford. This he proved up on and improved, farming successfully until he sold out in 1881 in order to locate in Santa Barbara county. In 1883 he located in San Luis Obispo County, and, with Nelson Archibald, bought seven hundred acres near Los Berros, and it became known as the Archibald & Cheadle tract. Here he farmed until he retired to private life in Santa Maria.

Charles A. Cheadle was but six years old when the family crossed the plains and he well remembers events of the journey. He attended the public schools, and when he had completed the courses he assisted his father to get the ranch near Hanford under cultivation, dug irrigating ditches and built fences and otherwise made himself useful about the place. On coming to this county, he continued to assist his father, and later began independent operations by renting two hundred acres which he farmed successfully for two years. He is now the owner of fifty-five acres at Los Berros, which he farms to grain and corn.

Mr. Cheadle started his poultry business on this ranch in 1909, with seventy-five laying hens which he bought of the Model Poultry Farm, and from that small beginning he has 4,000 laying hens, and one of the most modern chicken ranches in this section. He is breeding up to the McFarlane strain. In 1916 he bought 1,100 one-day-old chicks and one hundred of the best breeders. The incubator house contains six modern machines with a



considerable source of revenue. A bookkeeper and two lady clerks and a janitor complete the list of employes of the corporation. A complete stock of drugs and medicines of all kinds is carried, and courteous treatment, prompt service and a square deal are the aim of the Gardner-Wheaton Company.

Mrs. Gardner is a charter member of the Improvement Club and the Minerva Literary Club. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and sang in its choir for years. She has an excellent ear for music, and her work as a chorister in the church will not soon be forgotten. This position has descended to her daughter-in-law, Mrs. Charles V. Gardner, who is endowed with more than ordinary musical ability. Politically, Mrs. Helen L. Gardner supports the men, women, and measures that, in her estimation, are best suited for the prevailing conditions. She is president of the Gardner-Wheaton Drug Company, and is interested in every forward movement. She resides in her cozy home at 419 South Broadway, where she is surrounded by all the comforts of life, and by the society of her many friends.

**WILLIAM JOHE.**—It is to the German Empire that the United States has become indebted for some of her best and most progressive citizens. They are to be found everywhere and engaged in every line of work, and almost all of them have made good in their chosen vocations. Of this number mention may be made of William Johé, one of the men who have seen the city of San Luis Obispo grow from a mission town to its present proportions, and have seen the country develop into prosperous ranches and dairy farms. He was born in Grossherzogtum, Hessen, Germany, June 15, 1842, a son of Adam and Katherina (Heilman) Johe, both born and raised in the same part of the country. William attended the public schools in Germany until he was fourteen years old, and then began working for wages. From the age of seventeen until he was twenty-six, he worked on the home farm; then he came to the United States, arriving in May, 1868, in Santa Clara county, where he had two brothers, Leonard and George M. Johe. The first five years were spent in Santa Clara working for wages. At the end of this time, in 1873, he came to San Luis Obispo County, thinking he could better his condition; and he has always considered it a wise move, for he has prospered in his adopted home, and has won a host of friends.

Arriving in this county, he leased from Goldtree Bros. one hundred sixty acres of land lying next to where the county hospital now stands, and for five years remained there, when he moved to another of the Goldtree ranches four miles south of the town, where he continued for two years. His brother, George M. Johe, was a partner with him in the enterprise. At the end of two years, Mr. Johe moved to the Los Osos and bought a place of nine hundred acres; and there he embarked in dairying and stock-raising on a larger scale, being joined one year later by his brother. Two years afterward they divided the property, William Johe remaining on his portion for the following eighteen years. In 1897, he bought his home place of one hundred eleven acres on the Laguna. Here he has thirty-five acres of alfalfa and carries on a very successful farming enterprise.

Mr. Johe was married in San Luis Obispo to Annie Elizabeth Hornbach, born in Germany; and they have five children: Leon; George; William D., deceased; Henry; and Elizabeth. Mr. Johe served fifteen years as school trustee in the Los Osos district, and did much to maintain good schools there. When he moved to his present place and became a member of the board





*C. J. Souza*

of trustees of the Laguna school district, there was no fence around the school yard and the building was in need of repair. The district was out of funds, and he at once inaugurated an economical régime, in consequence of which there was soon enough money to buy lumber; and he and the other trustees built a fence about the yard and put the building in repair. He served as one of the trustees for about seven years and did much to further the cause of maintaining a good school. Ever since he became a citizen of the county Mr. Johe has been a supporter of the churches and the schools, and an advocate of good roads and of movements for uplifting humanity and bettering conditions generally.

#### CATANO JOSEPH SOUZA AND MARIA DOROTHY SOUZA.—

How much California, as well as many other parts of America, owes to the Portuguese who, while leaving their beautiful island country to find more promising conditions in the New World, yet brought with them those homely virtues and that industry and persistence which beautify life and make for success, is shown in the story of Catano J. Souza and his wife and widow Maria, long honored and esteemed in this part of the state. The late Catano J. Souza was a very successful man, one who could foresee the growing greatness of his locality. After he had been living here about two years he made his first purchase of land, ninety acres on the Oso Flaco, although at the time he possessed but eighty dollars and one horse; but he went into debt for \$2,000 to become a landowner. He worked hard and saved his money, and in three years had his place free of debt, and in fourteen years he sold it for \$9,000.

With this to start on, he again bargained for two hundred seventy acres in the same locality and went into debt for \$36,000. After owning his land for twenty-five years, he made an exchange with the Union Sugar Co. in December, 1909, for the valuable ranch he left to his heirs, which is now being successfully farmed to beans. This is known as the Sherman ranch, located near Santa Maria on the Guadalupe road. The record of his career in the management of these eight hundred splendid acres, together with that of his widow who took up the responsibility when he died, should be inspiring, especially to the newcomer with both the future and fortune ahead.

Mrs. Souza was born in the Azores, the daughter of Joseph Brass, whose sketch we give elsewhere, and she was a sister of Anton V. Bras, the first of that family to come to California. When Anton had enjoyed the invigorating climate of California for a couple of years, he sent for Maria and another sister, who married Anton J. Souza, and they came together, arriving here when Maria was but eighteen years of age. In 1886, the latter was married to Catano J. Souza, and until Mr. Souza's death they lived in unalloyed happiness. Catano Joseph Souza, or as he was called in Portuguese, Caetano Jose de Souza, was born in the island of Flores, one of the Azores group, September 24, 1863, and came to America when he was seventeen years of age. His father was Manuel J. and his mother Mary Souza; and both parents were born, lived and died in the Azores.

Leaving his native island in 1880, Catano Souza sailed the ocean for two years, and finally settled in the Santa Maria valley. He and his wife proved hard workers and soon made money, especially when they came to devote their land to the growing of beans; so that for some time he was a prominent

rancher and landowner in that part of the state. Eight children were born to the Souzas: Mary, the wife of John P. Domingues, a rancher in the Santa Maria valley; Annie, who died, aged eighteen; Frank C., a rancher who married Miss Julia Lewis, and whose sketch will be found elsewhere in the volume; John P., another rancher whose sketch is also given, and who married Miss Anella Zanetti; Catano, who died when he was fifteen; Manuel C., single, a rancher in partnership with John P. Souza; Isabella, who passed away on March 23, 1917, at the age of seventeen years and eleven months; and Blanche, who attends the high school.

C. J. Souza was an Elk, and lived in a comfortable residence at 503 East Main street, Santa Maria. From there he easily reached the three hundred forty-seven acres of upland and a little piece on the north side of Santa Maria river, now held by his widow. When he died, the funeral took place from the Catholic church, under the auspices of the I. D. E. S. and the U. P. E. C. Societies and the B. P. O. Elks, of which he was a member; and there was the largest cortège known in that vicinity, the procession slowly winding to Santa Maria Cemetery.

**MARTIN LUTHER TUNNELL.**—The life history of Mr. Tunnell is one of unusual interest, full of incidents and possessing that fascination which attaches to all lives of our pioneers. Through a career that covered the greater part of the nineteenth century and the opening years of the twentieth, he welcomed all advancement and witnessed the remarkable development of the United States, and saw the trans-Mississippi desert transformed into one of the most fertile regions of the world, and the remarkable growth in population of this rich western country. By birth and descent a Southerner, and for many years identified with the South, he spent so large a portion of his life in the West that he was a typical Westerner, a grand representative of the pathfinders, so few of whom remain to enjoy the comforts of the present day.

In Nashville, Tenn., Martin Luthern Tunnell first saw the light, February 24, 1824, a son of John and Nancy (Worthington) Tunnell, who were born, the former on February 23, 1773, and the latter on June 11, 1784, and whose marriage took place, December 16, 1800, in Tennessee. Martin Tunnell spent his summers on the home farm, and his winters in attending the district school, until he struck out for himself. Then he entered the service of the government and took part in the Mexican War, serving three years. He was married, May 11, 1848, in Nashville, Tenn., to Salina Haskins, daughter of John and Margaret Haskins; and three years later, in 1851, outfitted for the long trip across the plains with ox teams and prairie schooners. The usual experiences were met and overcome on the long journey, and no mishaps out of the ordinary are recorded. On arriving in California, Mr. Tunnell went at once into Sonoma county and engaged in farming and raising stock to supply the men who were working in the mines, believing that about as sure a way to success as to dig for gold on his own account. He met with good success and in September, 1868, came on down to Santa Barbara county and secured and farmed a quarter section cornering on the north-west of what is now Main and Broadway, where stands the Bradley Hotel. That same year Mr. Tunnell located a homestead of one hundred sixty acres about one and one-half miles southeast of his first location, and continued the operations that had brought him success further north. The ranch has

since been known as the Tunnell ranch and is still in the possession of the family, as is part of the land that cornered on the main business streets of what is now Santa Maria, but which, long after he settled there, was called Central City. The name was changed in order to have a post office in the settlement. He engaged in raising stock, his brand being MT, which was registered in Santa Barbara county in 1869, and was among the very first to be registered there, and which was known far and wide to Indians, cowboys and all stockmen.

Several children were born to this worthy couple. John L. married Ella M. Cook, and died May 6, 1914, leaving three children; Francis M. married Emma Hopper, has eight children and lives at Los Olivos; Eliza J. married W. K. Hobson of Santa Maria and has one child; Thomas J. married Mary Bradley, and they have five children and reside in the Santa Maria valley; James M. died January 2, 1904, from the effects of a horse kick in San Francisco; William H., of this city, married Fannie Davis, and they have three children; Martin L., of Kernville, Cal., married, and his wife died some years ago, leaving a son; George R., of Santa Maria, married Ellen Kortner and has two children; Henry C. married Fannie Stowell and lives south of the city; and Nellie A., wife of Charles Shattuck of San Francisco, has one son, Neal Sedgwick, by a former marriage. These children were all reared to be useful men and women and have taken their places in the busy affairs of life; and like their parents, they make and hold their friends by their sterling qualities of manhood and womanhood.

All enterprises having for their object the good of the community found Mr. Tunnell an advocate and friend, ready to give substantial aid. No worthy object of charity ever appealed to him in vain. Though never a seeker for office himself, he gave his support to his friends. He voted the Prohibition ticket at national elections. He was an active supporter of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He and his wife were happy in the society of their children and grandchildren. Mr. Tunnell passed away on September 9, 1903, and his wife passed to her reward on February 5, that same year.

**GEORGE R. TUNNELL.**—It is but natural that a native son of the state should be interested in the welfare of his own section of country and, as far as is possible, assist all worthy projects that have for their object the preservation of data relative to the comings and goings of the pioneers, the betterment of the community at large and the moral uplift of the people. Such a man is George R. Tunnell, who was born at Ukiah, Mendocino county, and when a child of two years was brought by his parents, Martin Luther and Salina (Haskins) Tunnell, who crossed the plains with ox-teams in 1851 and settled first in Sonoma county, later lived in Mendocino county and in 1868 came down to Santa Barbara county and settled on a tract of land that cornered on the main streets of what is now Santa Maria, then known as Central City.

It was in this pioneer environment that George grew to manhood, and attended the first school established in this section, called the Pleasant Valley school, in the building erected on land donated by his father for that purpose. In those days the young folks would have the old-time dances and other festivities to break the monotony of frontier life and farm work; and there were other interesting affairs, such as the annual rodeos, when the cowboys and stockmen would gather to cut out and brand their stock. Mr. Tunnell

Mr. Tunnell's father had registered in the county in 1869, M.T., one of the first to be recorded in the county, and a brand well known by Indians, Spaniards, ranchmen and riders of the range. In due time he became a cowboy, his father having given him a pony when he was a small lad, hardly able to sit astride of it, and he learned to ride and throw a lasso with the best of the riders.

As boys, George and his brother Henry were much together, and in later life became partners in the cattle business, ranging their stock in the Sisquoc from 1881 until October, 1916, when they dissolved partnership. During the years passed they owned several ranches as well as leased large tracts of land for grazing purposes. In 1900 they sold their cattle, but still carried on farming on the Suey ranch, where they had farmed since 1897. In 1902 the brothers bought subdivision No. 10 of the Tepesquet, containing eight hundred eighteen acres, and carried on their business until George sold to his brother his interest in the land, while the brother deeded over his interest in the eighty acres of the old homestead to our subject, where he now resides. For eight years Mr. Tunnell farmed on the Suey ranch, with success as his reward.

In 1905, Mr. Tunnell was united in marriage with Miss Ellen Kortner, who was born in Denmark and was but four years old when she was brought to this country by her parents, who settled in San Luis Obispo county on the Nipomo, later moving to the Tepesquet. Two children have blessed this union—Teressa S. and George Curtis. Mrs. Tunnell is a member of the Presbyterian Church. Since 1893, Mr. Tunnell has been an active member in the Santa Maria Lodge of Odd Fellows, in which he has passed all the chairs. He and his wife belong to the Rebekahs, and he is a member of the Encampment as well. He belongs, also, to Hesperian Lodge No. 264, F. & A. M. As a man and citizen Mr. Tunnell has an ever widening circle of friends, by whom he is respected for his integrity and sterling traits of character, and, like his father, is counted one of the upbuilders of the valley of the later generation.

**HAMILTON BROWN MORRISON.**—Born at Campsie, Stirling county, Scotland, October 27, 1853, Hamilton Brown Morrison was the son of Robert Morrison, a native of Stirling county, who is buried in the old churchyard at Campsie beside his wife, whose maiden name was Margaret Brown. Robert Morrison was a man of parts in his day. He was a blacksmith by trade, but became quite celebrated in his locality as a veterinarian, and received a testimonial from the government, for services he performed, along with a beautiful silver pen and tiny scales, also a fine set of instruments to use in treating stock, especially horses. The family moved to Glasgow when H. B. Morrison was a child, and at twelve years of age he had finished the public school and then went to work in Todd & McGregor's (now Henderson's) shipyards. His first work was on a yacht, the "Fridzafar," for the Khedive of Egypt, when he was sent into the boilers to shove the bolts into the holes. In the Fairfield shipyards he worked on the fast steamers "Alaska" and "Arizona," five hundred feet long, the largest steamers then afloat. This was in 1878. These ships had propellers, and were built for Elder & Co. He also worked on the "City of Richmond," the fastest steamer that sailed in 1878. Her time was seven days and fourteen hours from Queenstown to Sandy Hook.







*W. S. Whitaker*

Mr. Morrison decided to come to California, and sailed from Old Point January 10, 1879, arriving in New York on the "Devonian," January 22, and that night he left by rail for the West, and reached Sacramento on February 2, 1879—twenty-four days of what was then considered fast traveling. He went to Berryessa valley, Napa county, and engaged in blacksmithing with his brother, Robert Morrison. In 1882 they moved to Winters, Yolo county, and continued their business there until November, 1886, when H. B. Morrison left to go into business at Templeton. He owned a blacksmith shop there and sold farm machinery until 1899, when sickness and loss of property combined to break his health for many years. For the last seven years he has been an engineer, for four years of this time at the sugar factory in Betteravia, and for over a year with the Pinal Oil Co., where he is still, with health restored, and the Templeton episode put by.

**W. S. WHITAKER AND IRA RAY WHITAKER.** It is but natural that the son of a pioneer of the county should take pride in the achievements of his father and try to carry out some of the plans made by him; and no one is more enthusiastic about the future of our great state than Ira R. Whitaker, who was born in Winchester, Van Buren county, Ia., September 10, 1859. He was the son of Winfield Scott Whitaker, who was born in Indiana, on February 18, 1832, himself a son of J. M. Whitaker, born February 11, 1801, a member of the Iowa legislature for twenty years, who had the honor of selecting the State University lands. He married Jane Phillips, a native of Ohio and a daughter of William Phillips, a pioneer of that state.

W. S. Whitaker was reared in Van Buren county, Ia., worked on the home farm, and attended the frontier schools of his neighborhood. In 1853 he crossed the plains to California, during the gold excitement, and engaged in mining at Dry Town, Calaveras county, but met with disappointment in his search for the shiny metal. He then moved to Grizzly Flats in Eldorado county, and continued his search; and in two years he had saved \$2,000.

In 1856, Mr. Whitaker sold out his mining interests there for \$600, and, on account of poor health, caused from exposure and hardships he had to undergo, left in the dead of winter and walked through three feet of snow to the Sacramento valley, returned to Iowa via Panama and engaged in the general merchandise business in his home county until 1862. In 1858 he was married in Iowa to Mary Gross, who had come to Iowa with her parents when a little girl. The call to return to California was too strong to be resisted, and Mr. Whitaker soon brought his family across the plains with him, settling in Marin county for a time. But as he had mined in early days in the state and the experience had secured a hold on him, he thought he would try his luck once more and went to Nevada, where he remained for six months. Then he concluded that he had had enough of that kind of adventure and would settle down to the life of a farmer.

On October 7, 1863, he landed in San Luis Obispo County, when it was a comparatively desolate country, and purchased land at the mouth of San Simeon creek, where he lived through the winter. The next spring he helped organize the firm of Grant, Lull and Co. and built a store at the mouth of San Simeon creek. After carrying on a general merchandise business for six months, he moved to Cambria and erected the first store building in that town, and put in a stock valued at \$8,000. From that beginning, the town has grown until it has become a prosperous trading center.

1882, Mr. Whitaker sold his interest in the establishment and moved to San Simeon to assume charge of the wharf as agent for the Pacific Steamship Co. During the mining excitement at the quicksilver mines, he engaged in mining once more with George Van Gordon and others, meeting with ordinary success. He also engaged in the dairy business under the name of Whitaker & Son, on their four hundred twenty acre ranch at the mouth of San Simeon creek, which joins the San Simeon grant. There he died, December 31, 1894, and his wife survived him till February, 1915, dying at the age of seventy-seven years. They were parents of three children: Ira Ray; Alice C., Mrs. William Bordine, who lives on the home place; and Lottie, Mrs. L. A. McCabe of San Luis Obispo.

There was scarcely any line of activity that Mr. Whitaker was not intensely interested in. He always was to be counted upon to support every movement that in his mind would further the interests of the county and bring in settlers. He was hospitable and ever ready to lend a helping hand to those worthy of his assistance. He held various offices in the county and was held in high esteem by all with whom he came in contact.

Ira R. Whitaker attended school at the first schoolhouse built on San Simeon creek and assisted with the work on the home ranch. At the age of twenty he took up the burden of life, and for eighteen years, up to 1899, engaged in stock-raising and dairying. Since that time he has devoted his energies principally to the stock business and has met with more than ordinary success. He put out the first fruit orchard in his section of the county. He raised several varieties of fruits, and showed what can be accomplished in the fruit industry under the soil conditions there. He is one of the few members of the pioneer families still to be found in the county, and, like his father before him, is progressive, public-spirited and influential. In his political views he is a Democrat.

**ALEXANDER McMILLAN.** The marvelous transformation wrought in California during the past forty or fifty years is largely due to the energy and patient perseverance of pioneers who, having left comfortable homes in the East or even in foreign countries, identified themselves with the newer West, and here evolved a commonwealth out of a barren waste; and it is a pleasure to put somewhat definitely on record the story of their achievements. Such a pioneer, for example, as Alexander McMillan, with whom and with whose family McMillan's Cañon will be forever associated, has a story to tell both highly interesting and deeply instructive. On December 7, 1861, he was born in Restigouche, county, New Brunswick. His father was James McMillan, a most worthy citizen of the flourishing province, the details of whose life are noted elsewhere in another sketch.

Alexander was the third youngest of nine children, and so, perhaps, enjoyed more schooling than some of the others who had a harder tussle with farm work. He took his turn, however, following agriculture as the New Brunswick farmers practiced it, until he was twenty-three years of age; then, in 1884, with his brother James, he came first to San Francisco. They traveled along the coast by steamer and stopped for a time at Cayucos, San Luis Obispo County. When they arrived, the brothers had only about four hundred dollars together; but they set to work, located a pre-emption and timber culture claim, and later homesteaded another quarter section, so that in time they had four hundred eighty acres each in McMillan's Cañon.

For seven years they engaged in stock raising, which required much labor and a great deal of oversight, as the county was an open range with no fence between Tulare lake and the coast.

After a while the brothers dissolved partnership, and each began raising grain separately. They produced the first crops of wheat in this section. The first crop they produced in common yielded twenty-two sacks to the acre, and was of such extreme importance to the agriculturists that they camped by the growing grain, riding around it in relays each night to keep the cattle out. Mr. McMillan used a header to harvest his wheat, and with characteristic enterprise got a thresher to come sixty miles to thresh it; and he then hauled the wheat to Cayucos, fifty-five miles away, receiving for his harvest from \$1.30 to \$1.40 per hundred. It was quite a trip, too, four days being required for the journey; but this did not dissuade Alexander from raising wheat. The next year the railroad reached Paso Robles and the grain was delivered to that point. Then McMillan rented one hundred sixty acres and ran two teams, in this way operating a section. He usually had two hundred fifty acres a year, and in addition he raised some cattle and horses. This year he sold wheat at from \$2.15 to \$2.68.

Among the settlers of McMillan's Cañon, Alexander is the oldest pioneer in the vicinity. The McMillan family own some two thousand seven hundred acres. He was married in Los Angeles to Miss Frances Harte, a native of Chicago, and is now the father of seven children: Gordon, who assists him on the farm; Laura, now Mrs. Le Roy Hopper, residing at Shandon; Donald, who attends the San Luis Obispo Polytechnic; and Ian, Eben, Milton and Dorothy, who are at home. When the Presbyterian Church flourished at Shandon Alexander McMillan was very properly chosen an elder, as one to whom his fellow-worshippers might look with confidence; but the church having disbanded, he affiliated himself with the Methodists. He is a member of the board of trustees of Eagle school district of McMillan's Cañon. In politics, he is known as a fearless Democrat.

**LEWIS DREW WEEKS.**—It was while whacking bulls on the plains in Dakota territory out of Deadwood that Lewis Drew Weeks had some mighty stirring times, showing the Redskins a pointer or two and coming desperately near to allowing the pesky Indians to show him something also; and if you don't believe it you have only to talk to Lewis and he will convince you in short order. You will find him, also, a most interesting talker and a rare, good story-teller; on which account, and a dozen others, everybody likes Lewis Weeks, and no one begrudges him, with his large-heartedness and capacity as a kind and sympathetic neighbor, the degree of success he enjoys as the pioneer merchant of Santa Margarita. Coming from a grandfather, Jeremiah, who was born and who died in New Hampshire, he is the son of Mitchell S. Weeks, a native of St. Johnsbury Plain, Vt.

Mitchell Weeks was a tanner by trade, and followed that occupation until the spring of 1849, when he migrated to California. Having purchased mule-teams in St. Louis, he crossed the plains, along the overland trail, and on July 4, 1849, they were at Independence Rock. The following winter he was engaged in chopping wood on the present site of Oakland. Afterwards he did teaming at Hangtown (now Placerville), when he was a miner. It was while there that he had the pleasure of voting for the application of California for admission into the Union.

He came in the vicinity of Yosemite Valley, and so primeval were the conditions that he made candles, in moulds he carried with him, out of the tallow obtained from deer. After tasting somewhat of Western life, he returned to Vermont, and afterward settled as a merchant in Winona, Minn. A few years later, that is in 1859, he opened a store at St. Charles, a town not far away, and there he remained until 1871, when he sold out and started in the milling business, building the first flour mill in that locality.

In 1879, he removed to Goodwin, Dakota Territory, taking the mill with him and making flour from Dakota wheat. Ten years later he located in San Luis Obispo, but did not remain in the old Mission town. Instead, with his son he moved over to Santa Margarita in March, and on the day of the first sale of lots they bought a corner lot, and the next day began erecting the store building now occupied by his son. Mitchell Weeks continued there in business until he died, in 1901. Lewis's mother, who was born in Michigan City, Ind., and died in 1869 in St. Francisville, La., was Miss Mary J. Stuart. She had four children, but Lewis is the only one living.

Lewis Weeks was born on October 1, 1862, in St. Charles; and when his father moved South, five years later, he resided for a while in Louisiana. Yellow fever took the mother and sister in 1869, and the father and son then returned to St. Charles. There the boy attended the public school; but in 1878, when only sixteen, he struck out for the Black Hills. For two summers he drove a bull team, between Fort Pierre and Deadwood, drawing five tons to the load, and during the winters he went to school at Winona. He was graduated from Stewart and Lambert's Business College, Winona, and then for two summers he ran the river as second mate for Imperial excursions on the Diamond Joe Line. He was then in the service of the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad, west of Winona, doing duty in various capacities from brakeman to conductor and later acting as engineer. He spent three years in their machine shop, and for seven years continued with them. He next passed to the service of the Sioux Line running out to Turtle Lake with a track to Gladstone on Lake Michigan, and he was also employed on the Wisconsin Central between St. Paul and Chippewa Falls and Abbotsford and Eau Claire.

In the fall of 1885 he came to Los Angeles, and then in 1886 to San Luis Obispo, and was employed as a carpenter for I. L. Wilson about one year. In December, 1888, he first came to Santa Margarita, where he settled; and since his father's death he has continued alone the well-known general merchandise business there. For eighteen years his father served as postmaster, having been appointed under President Harrison; and as the office was in the store, Lewis often acted as postmaster.

Lewis Weeks has been twice married. His first marriage took place at San Luis Obispo, where he was united to Miss Rose Comport, a native of Kent, England, who died at Santa Margarita five months after her marriage, and was buried with the first funeral rites observed in the new town. His second marriage also took place at San Luis Obispo, when he made Miss Katherine Cavanagh, a native of San Jose, his wife.

Mr. Weeks is popular as a Mason. He was made a Mason in King David Lodge No. 209, San Luis Obispo, and is a member of Chapter No. 62 in the same town; and he is equally acceptable with the San Luis Obispo Lodge

No. 322, B. P. O. Elks. A Republican "true blue." Mr. Weeks has long been a man service as a member of the county central committee.

**CAPTAIN JAMES CASS.**—There was no better known pioneer in San Luis Obispo county than Capt. James Cass of Cayucos. He was born in Bristol, England, Nov. 24, 1824. At the age of eleven he sailed on the full-rigged ship "Bristol" for New York as a passenger, but before the boat landed he was made a sailor-boy. He was engaged in the Hudson river trade for some time and later with enterprises in the West Indies. During the years in which he followed the sea, he encountered many dangers and had many narrow escapes from death—once when the schooner "Convoy" capsized in a squall, on July 11, 1841, while running between Mobile, Ala., and Franklin, La. It was about this time that Mr. Cass decided to make a visit to his old home in England and joined the ship "Bengal" of New York, landing at Liverpool and going directly home. There he attended the Brockly Elm Academy for a time, and then went back to sea.

On January 8, 1849, he shipped before the mast for California on the "Orpheus" of New York, and arrived in San Francisco Sunday, July 8, 1849. On Monday, the 9th, he was added to the crew of the schooner "Olivia" on the Sacramento run, at \$150 per month. The pilot, named William Burger, put the sounding line in young Cass's hands and said, "Take this and stay with it; I'll make a man of you," and he remained in the river service until he knew the river as well as any of the pilots. He grew to be a pilot on his own responsibility and later became acquainted with James Woods of Cambria, who was bound with an ox-team for Dry Town, Eldorado county, to prospect for gold. Mr. Cass went to Amador creek, where he spent the winter, until February, in mining, then went north to the American river camps and mined until spring opened, when he went to Sacramento and started piloting on the river. He piloted the schooner "Gazelle" to San Francisco, and continued at the work until June. With a former shipmate, he then returned to Dry Town and again engaged in mining until November, when, with other partners, he opened the Boston Store on Dry Creek near Ione valley. The following spring he sold his interest and purchased land in Ione valley and began farming. In the fall he sold the land and opened the Syracuse Store at Muletown, later selling out and again taking up mining.

Next he took up land in Sacramento county, in 1854, and engaged in farming. While there, he was married, on July 8 of that year, to Miss Mary Stone, a native of England, who had come with her father across the plains with ox teams in 1852. Mr. Cass followed farming there until 1867, when he sold out and came to San Luis Obispo, arriving in November of that year. He immediately located in Cayucos, took up a government claim of three hundred twenty acres one mile back from the ocean, and there he farmed two years. At that time there was no shipping point at Cayucos, and owing to his sea-faring experiences he conceived the idea of a seaport. With that end in view he made investigation and compiled the necessary statistics and found the amount of grain and produce was sufficient to justify him in endeavoring to get in touch with those interested in the shipping business on the coast. He made the acquaintance of Captain J. Ingalls, then running a schooner between Port Harford and San Francisco. He was interested and Mr. Cass piloted him and his vessel from the port to Cayucos. As everything was satisfactory, his company induced Mr. Cass to go to San Simeon

and pilot another vessel to Cayucos. This being satisfactory, he then made arrangements to get cargoes for the vessels and at once let it become known that he could forward grain and produce. At first the grain was piled on the beach until a warehouse could be erected, and the vessels were loaded by surfing boats. That winter he bought a house and hauled it to Cayucos and made a temporary warehouse of it; and the next year he put in a stock of merchandise, having sold his ranch in the meantime.

January 1, 1872, he started to build a jetty to low water mark, and it was two years before he commenced to build the wharf. In this undertaking it was necessary for him to have aid, so he interested the firm of Schartz-Harford & Co. to take a half interest, and then built the wharf and warehouse; and in 1875 they began a wharf and general warehouse business. The wharf was about 1000 feet long, and steamers and ships could land alongside practically the same as at present. In 1875 the new store was an ell on the warehouse. In eight or ten years both of Mr. Cass's partners died and he bought their interests. In 1875 the rancho Morro y Cayucos was subdivided and he bought three blocks of water frontage for his company, and also took up considerable tide lands. At various times and from different owners, Captain Cass purchased land; and he owned several stock ranches, among them the Glenbrook ranch across the summit, where he himself set out a forty-acre apple orchard. He also owned a four-hundred-acre ranch adjoining Cayucos, which gave him a mile of ocean frontage; and with his son he engaged in cattle-raising and dairying. The store is still run under the corporate title James Cass & Co.

As the years passed Mr. Cass prospered and several changes were made in the personnel of the firm; but his personality was the dominating factor through it all. Prior to going into the merchandising business, Mr. Cass had started the first lumber yard at Cayucos; and safe to say, almost all lumber used in the building of houses, barns and fences passed over his wharf. Ocean-going steamers can land; and he it was who piloted the "Joseph Wooly," the first vessel to enter the harbor. His handsome home in Cayucos was purchased by him when he decided to make the place his home. As has been said, he owned the Glenbrook ranch of five hundred acres between Cayucos and Templeton; and it is noted for its fine apples, including the following varieties: Newtown Pippins, white and red Pearmains, Jonathan, Winesap, Bellefleur, and Spitzenburgh. It is one of the show places in that part of the county, and it was developed under the personal supervision of Captain Cass.

Captain Cass was a man of great ingenuity, and having had much experience with the teredo, he invented and patented a pile-preserver which has since been adopted by many wharves along the Coast. He was a Knight Templar Mason and a Shriner, passed all the chairs in the Odd Fellows lodge, was justice of the peace and notary, and was a man of great public spirit. Always interested in the cause of education, he was a member of the first school board and helped to build the first schoolhouse at Cayucos. Mrs. Mary Stone Cass died in Sacramento in 1858, leaving four children: Sarah, now deceased; Charles A., engaged in farming; Emily J., wife of A. L. Burroughs; and Henry K., who was associated with his father in business. In 1860 Mr. Cass married his second wife, Mary McMurry, who was born in New York and died in Cayucos, leaving one daughter, Rosa M. On March

15, 1917, Captain Cass passed away peacefully, after a long and useful life being over ninety-two years old.

**ABRAM A. STILL.**—How delighted you would be if all through life you would have only to press your little finger gently on the latch or fastening of a door or window and it would fly open for you, and you could pass through doorway and gateway without troubling to close anything behind you, and would know that the door or gate would shut and fasten of its own accord! Or, imagine that you were running that automobile you have long dreamed about, and that you were placed in a position where using the reverse accidentally meant going over the grade with your car: Would it not be some satisfaction to have yourself safeguarded against the application of the wrong lever and so avoid the possibility of your smashing up body and machine? Inventions to provide such conveniences and safeguards are the product of the fertile brain of Abram A. Still, one of the oldest settlers in the region around Annette, Kern county, who came here a pioneer farmer in 1872. His grandfather was the Reverend Abram Still, a Methodist who preached in Kansas and Missouri for fifty years. His father, Thomas C. Still, born in Tennessee in 1833, and reared in Kansas and Missouri, was a physician who often had to blaze his own trail to the house of a patient, and who studied medicine before the great Civil War. In 1863 he brought his wife and three children across the plains with oxen and horses; the next year he pre-empted a claim near Mt. Diablo, and while there he taught school. He then moved to Sebastopol, Sonoma county, and found employment in a saw-mill; and while there he met with a painful accident to the fingers of his right hand, which were saved by having his wife wrap them together with pine oil. In 1867 he came to San Luis Obispo and resumed his practice, and in 1872 located in what is now Annette, then called Palo Prieto. In 1879 he removed to La Panza, a lively town in the time of the mining excitement, and, retiring from medicine, took up farming and stock-raising. A brother of Thomas C. Still was Dr. A. T. Still, of Kirksville, Missouri, the originator of the School of Osteopathy, a new science studied by Abram's father and practiced more or less at home. Abram's mother was Martha A. Still, a native of old Virginia, who suffered forty-five years from an annual hemorrhage of the lungs, brought about through exposure in a peculiar way. She had just had measles, and was left alone; and to keep a mule from killing a calf, she arose from her bed and went down barefoot into the field and led the calf away. A congestion set her back, and the doctor returned only in time to save her life. As a result she had, each year after that awful night, a recurrence of the hemorrhage. At sixty-five years of age, this kind old lady died at La Panza.

Abram Still was born in Centropolis, Kan., on December 13, 1858, and when but five years of age came across the plains, wintering at Honey Lake in Lassen county. Four years later he came to San Luis Obispo, where, for a year and a half, he attended school. He also settled here, and in 1882 started in the sheep business, having by 1893 some six thousand head. When the Cleveland administration placed wool on the free list, Mr. Still lost all he had, and started over again at one dollar a day, herding sheep for Miller & Lux.

He homesteaded a hundred eighty acres, his present place at Annette, which he devoted to the raising of grain. Success smiling upon him once



more, he rented parcel after parcel of land, and in 1914 raised ten thousand sacks of wheat and barley—his banner year—all of which he hauled to Paso Robles. He now runs three big teams, using a combined harvester, and operates from one thousand to twelve hundred acres a year, sowing from six hundred to seven hundred to grain.

Abram Still married Miss Minnie Wolf, who was born in Holland and was raised in San Francisco. For twenty-two years Abram Still was postmaster of Annette, and recently his gifted wife has succeeded him in this office. His experience as a postmaster, when he saw how the public trooped through his gateway and left the gate open, prompted him to invent the contrivance already alluded to, and this was followed by the safety device for locking the reverse position of the automobile, while all forward positions are in use—a great boon to the automobilist.

**AMADOR NEVADA RUDE.**—A native son of California and a man well known throughout his section of the county by reason of his prominence in political matters. A. N. Rude was born at Volcano, Amador county, California, November 12, 1856. His father was Thomas G. Rude, a native of Hardin county, Ky., who had removed to Knox county, Ill., where he married Mary Louisa Metcalf. She was a native of Allegany county, New York state, came with her parents to Illinois, and was orphaned when but twelve years old. When sixteen, she married; and about five or six years later, with her husband, she started across the plains. The party set out in 1852 with ox teams, and took six months to make the trip; and Mr. Rude and his wife met with many thrilling experiences during that long and dangerous journey. They had their teams stolen by the Indians, suffered hardships that to the young men and women of today would seem unendurable, and were glad when at last they knew they were in California. They stopped at Hangtown, now Placerville, and there Mr. Rude engaged in mining. From there he went to Volcano, and thence to San Francisco. He was by trade a bricklayer, and worked in that city on the construction of the old Palace Hotel, the old hall of records and other buildings then in course of construction; and for a time he was in the employ of Claus Spreckels. His next move was in 1860, to Rincon valley, in Sonoma county, where he took up government land and improved a home, doing general farming and stock-raising, and in the meantime following his trade to make both ends meet. He sold his ranch in 1878, and about October 15 of that year arrived in San Luis Obispo County, where he lived until his death, in 1882, when he was dragged by a horse and killed. His widow passed away on July 2, 1911. Besides the subject of our sketch, their children were: William, who runs the Paso Robles feed yard; Arabella, later Mrs. McNaughton, who died in San Jose; Paulina, who was born and died during the trip across the plains; Grayson, who died in Lake county, Ore., in 1878; El Roy, now of San Jose; and George, of Imperial county.

Amador N. Rude was reared on the farm in Rincon valley and attended the public schools there, later studying in Santa Rosa at the Pacific Methodist College. He remained at home assisting with the farm work until 1878, when he and his mother came south to Santa Barbara county to visit a brother living there. So well pleased were they with the appearance of the country, its conditions and its prospects, that they returned home and induced the father to sell out and come south to live. The trip was



*A. N. Rude*



made overland, as the railroad did not extend at that time any further along the coast than Soledad. They camped back of Paso Robles and were told by Patsey Dunn, the storekeeper, that there was some government land to be had on Estrella plains, whereupon Mr. Rude went to look at it and decided he would remain there. He bought a quarter section of H. H. Barton and started to improve it by erecting buildings and breaking the land; and the first year he seeded seventy-five acres to grain. When he had his house finished, he gave a dance and house-warming on January 1, 1879, and people came from forty miles around to attend, and enjoy the festivities. An interesting incident occurred during the dance. The grain that season was badly in need of rain, for up to that time there had been barely enough moisture to sprout it, and about midnight the set for the supper dance had just formed when the patter of drops on the new shakes was heard. The set was broken up and all rushed outside to see and feel the welcome rain, which proved to be but a passing shower. His crop was short, and he went to work in the Santa Maria valley with his teams; and when he returned home he brought seed back with him, and has ever since raised grain and stock. He took up a homestead timber claim in Sunflower valley, Kern county, afterwards known as Devil's Den country, but later sold it.

In 1881 he bought one hundred sixty acres of railroad land from Joseph Moody, making him three hundred twenty acres in one body, which he farmed to grain. Mr. Rude wore out two headers, and then bought a combined harvester. He deeded the old homestead to his mother to make sure that she would have the comforts of life if anything should happen to him. However, as was right on her part, she deeded it back to him six years before she died. After her death, there was an effort made by his brother William and his attorney to set aside the deed. The resulting contest caused Mr. Rude considerable annoyance and expense; but he won his case. He rents two hundred sixty acres of land to his nephew, and reserves sixty acres for his own use. He has a fine vineyard of six acres and an orchard of four acres, and has sold a great deal of fruit from his orchard at times. He cares for the fruit himself. For a time he had a dairy, but he soon disposed of it, for his other interests paid him a handsome profit and he was well satisfied.

In his philanthropic way he has reared and educated several children. He and his mother brought up a niece and nephew—Dettie Rude, now Mrs. Lima of Kern county, in the vicinity of Maricopa; and William H. Rude, who is renting land from his uncle. He also reared two sons of his cousin, Mrs. Etta Coulter, who died in 1897: Forest, then aged five, and Alroy N., aged two years. They remained with him until they were grown, and went through the grammar school. The former lives in San Luis Obispo, and the latter is a grain farmer on the Estrella.

For a number of years Mr. Rude was an active member of Paso Robles Parlor, N. S. G. W. He was prominently connected with the Farmers' Alliance, served as trustee of the Estrella school district for twenty years, and was clerk part of the time. He was formerly a Populist and was a candidate for the Assembly on that ticket in 1894, and was also a member of the County Central Committee and was well known politically. Of late years he has been in accord with the principles of the Socialist party. He is well-read and abreast of the times, has a retentive memory, and is an interesting conversa-

most. He adheres to the doctrines advanced by the New Thought Alliance. He is liberal and willingly lends a helping hand to the unfortunate, has a kindly, agreeable manner and has drawn about him a large circle of friends. Fortunate indeed is he who has the opportunity of his hospitality.

**A. B. BIGLER.**—The bench and bar of Central California have many able representatives, who stand high in their profession because of deep study of the best authorities on law; and among them none has a higher rank than A. B. Bigler of Santa Maria. His record is that of a skilled lawyer and an able business man. His fine legal ability places him in the front rank of his profession, not only in Santa Maria, but in the whole of Santa Barbara county. He is noted for his lucid and practical expositions, and for the skill and justice with which he disposes of the many important cases which have come to him for defense. A man of extended experience in various walks of life, he is also a financier of no mean ability, and a politician whose disinterested devotion to the public welfare has never been questioned.

A. B. Bigler was born in Clearfield, Penn., April 10, 1870, the oldest of three sons and two daughters of William D. and Alice (Barrett) Bigler, both natives of Clearfield county and coming from old Pennsylvania-Dutch stock. The grandfather, William Bigler, was governor of Pennsylvania from 1852 to 1856, and served in the United States Senate from 1856 to 1862, being a personal friend of President Buchanan. On the maternal side, grandfather George R. Barrett was district judge in Pennsylvania. On the paternal side his great-uncle, John Bigler, brother of Governor William Bigler, was a California pioneer of 1849, and a noted lawyer, and became the second governor of this state after it was admitted to the Union. His own father, William D. Bigler, was a prominent attorney and served, during Grover Cleveland's second administration, as assistant United States treasurer at the sub-treasury in Philadelphia; and while the father was in that position, his son, A. B. Bigler, served as vault clerk.

Mr. Bigler was educated in the public schools of Pennsylvania and attended Peekskill Military Academy from 1886 to 1889, after which he matriculated at La Fayette College, taking the civil engineering course. Not liking it there, he went to Princeton and pursued that course for the junior and sophomore years, leaving there in 1892 with rank of senior. He then entered the employ of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in the engineering department, and remained with them until the panic of 1893, when he was laid off. From 1894 to 1898, he served under his father as vault clerk in the sub-treasury in Philadelphia.

In 1898 Mr. Bigler visited California in the interest of the Producers and Consumers' Oil Company, in which he and other Pennsylvanians were interested at Coalinga, remaining one year, when he assisted in putting down some wells at Parkfield, Monterey county. During this time he had studied law. He took the regular examination before the Supreme Court of California, and on August 31, 1899, was admitted to practice. Going to Bakersfield, he opened an office with a partner, as the firm of Bigler & Platz; and after about four years, he came to Santa Maria and at once began to build up a clientele. Today he is recognized as the leading attorney in the valley. He is attorney for the Pinal-Dome Oil Company, and, while engaging in general practice, specializes in corporation law. He is also deputy district attorney for Santa Barbara county, having received the appointment on January 1, 1914.

Mr. Bigler was united in marriage in 1901, in San Jose, with Miss Harriet Wilcox, a native of that city; and they are the parents of three children: William; A. B., Jr.; and John. Mr. Bigler is a consistent Democrat. He belongs to the old school of lawyers with whom scholarship, legal lore, integrity and honor are the guiding principles.

**THOMAS WHITELEY.**—The life which this narrative sketches began in England in 1824 and closed in Arroyo Grande, Cal., in 1899, and within these years is a record of much accomplished for the benefit of his fellow citizens. Thomas Whiteley was a shoemaker and followed that trade in his native country until the early fifties, when he came to the United States and, locating in Taunton, Mass., conducted a large shoe store until 1860. Leaving Taunton, he came by the way of the Isthmus of Panama to San Francisco and there engaged in the shoe business.

After the breaking out of the war, he sold out, and in 1862 returned East and enlisted in the Fourth Massachusetts Regiment for three months. At the expiration of his term of enlistment he re-enlisted, and for six months was detailed as a recruiting officer. He returned to California in 1863, via Panama, and again engaged in the shoe business, in San Francisco, selling out in 1868, and locating in San Luis Obispo, where he opened the first shoe store and repair shop in the town, located on Higuera street.

In 1874, he settled in Arroyo Grande and opened a shoe shop. He purchased a tract of land in the town, thus giving his name to Whiteley street. He farmed for a time, and passed away at his home.

He married Margaret Ann Longshire, a native of Manchester, England, born in 1829; and of this union three children are living: Mrs. Priscilla Ganoung of Arroyo Grande; Thomas Whiteley of San Francisco; and Walter, located on Carissa plains in San Luis Obispo County. Mrs. Whiteley died in Arroyo Grande in 1902. Mr. Whiteley was a member of the Grand Army post of Arroyo-Grande and was a prominent man in the upbuilding of the city.

**MRS. PRISCILLA GANOUNG.**—A native of Manchester, England. Mrs. Ganoung was born January 19, 1847, a daughter of Thomas and Margaret Ann (Longshire) Whiteley, who brought her to the United States when she was a girl of eight. She was reared in San Luis Obispo County, and on February 14, 1871, was united in marriage with Edward E. Ganoung, who was born June 22, 1837, in the state of Michigan.

He crossed the plains to California in 1860, stopped for a time in San Bernardino county, and from there the same year came on to San Luis Obispo County, where he leased land and engaged in farming, until he was able to buy land of his own on the Huasna. For years he successfully farmed and raised stock; and he finally bought a small tract of twenty-two acres in the Oak Park district near Arroyo Grande, and followed bean-raising until his death, July 15, 1911.

Of the six children born from the union of Mr. and Mrs. Ganoung, three are now living—Albert, Oliver and William H. During the many years of his residence here, Mr. Ganoung was a well-to-do man. For years he was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Since his death his widow has made her home in Arroyo Grande. Her home is graced by contentment and hospitality, and her neighbors and friends throughout the county find in her a cheerful hostess on every occasion.

**JOHN FRANCIS WRIGHT.**—A native son who is at the head of large affairs, John Francis Wright was born in Adelaida, San Luis Obispo County, July 20, 1876, the son of John and Sarah (Burden) Wright, who were born in Iowa and Sebastopol, California, respectively. His father crossed the plains with his parents, when a lad. The grandfather was also named John, and brought his family to California, locating first at Santa Cruz, and afterwards in the Adelaida country, San Luis Obispo County, where he resided until he retired. He then returned to Santa Cruz, where he died. His maternal grandfather, Alfred Burden, crossed the plains to California in 1849, and was in San Francisco when lots sold on Market street for fifty dollars each. After mining for a while, he engaged in ranching in Sonoma county, and later was an early settler of San Luis Obispo County, where he died.

John F. Wright's father was a stockman in Santa Cruz county until 1868, when he came to San Luis Obispo County. Here he was married, and became a prominent stockman and rancher in the Adelaida country. He was for many years road overseer. He is now a horticulturist in San Fernando valley, at present a part of Los Angeles city. The six children of John and Sarah (Burden) Wright are as follows: Annie, wife of Charles J. Taylor, sheriff of San Luis Obispo County; Hallie (Mrs. J. W. Lemen), of Adelaida; John F., of this review; Bertha (Mrs. Ray D. Pelton), of San Diego; Myrtle (Mrs. Jno. Lynch), of Madera; and Gertrude, who resides with her parents.

John Francis received his education in the public schools in Adelaida. From a boy he assisted on the ranch and made himself generally useful, learning grain- and stock-growing, until nineteen years of age. He then served three years as a fireman in the boiler room at the Betteravia Sugar Factory. After that he spent one year with the Risdon Iron Works in San Francisco, and then for a short time held a position with the Union Oil Co. He then removed to the San Fernando valley, where he was employed at ranching. In 1906 we find him in Fairbanks, Alaska, where he put in three years prospecting and mining, making good strikes, but losing again while hunting for more of the yellow metal.

On his return to the San Fernando valley, he began grain farming on a large scale with Messrs. Hubbard and Wright as partners. Two years later he bought them out, and continued the business alone. Believing in the use of the latest and most modern machinery, he was the first to use a caterpillar for farming in the San Fernando valley, where he operated 3,000 acres, sowing all to grain each year, and using, besides the caterpillar, six to eight big teams to get in the crop, as well as two combined harvesters for gathering the grain. He was successful, raising big crops of hay and grain. One year alone he raised 3,200 tons of hay, besides a large amount of grain. After four successful seasons, he sold the entire plant and purchased a ranch of two hundred forty acres at Madera, devoted to raising alfalfa and fruits, and having a full-bearing peach orchard of thirty-five acres.

Mr. Wright was married in San Fernando, being united with Miss Ella Grove, who was born in Iowa, a daughter of J. W. Grove; and they have one son, Francis John.

In 1916 he returned to San Luis Obispo County and associated himself with his father-in-law, J. W. Grove, and his sons under the firm name of J. F. Wright & Co., leasing the greater part of the grain land of the Sacra-



*J. F. Wright*





mento ranch and also a part of the Estrella ranch, which he operates by the use of two caterpillars and four to eight horse teams; and on the 10,000 acres he leases, he is doing 4,500 acres of summer fallowing for this season.

Faternally, he is a member of the Arroyo Grande Lodge of Odd Fellows, as well as the Encampment in San Luis Obispo. Always interested in the cause of education, he served as school trustee in Los Angeles county, and was a member of the board during the building of the Zelzah school-house. Mr. Wright is alive to the great opportunities in San Luis Obispo County, and is very optimistic for its future development and greatness.

**JOHN THOMAS GOODCHILD.**—By common consent, the best known pioneer in all the Santa Maria valley is John Thomas Goodchild, who was born at East Tilbury, England, February 12, 1846, the second son and child of the Rev. William George Goodchild, a vicar of the Church of England, near what was once historic Tilbury Fort, where Queen Elizabeth assembled her troops to resist a possible Spanish invasion, which was prevented by the sinking of the Spanish Armada. His grandfather was Thomas Goodchild, also a clergyman, while his great-grandfather was a lawyer descended from a line of notable London merchants. The mother of John Thomas was Faith (Shilleto) Goodchild, of Dutch extraction; and to this worthy couple were born ten children—seven boys and three girls.

As might be expected, John Thomas was educated at private schools and confirmed in the Church of England; and a precious and interesting souvenir of his boyhood days is a drawing-book filled by his childish industry, which has recently been sent to him from the old country. In 1860, however, at the age of fifteen, he left school and went to work on his father's farm of two hundred or more choice acres. The oldest brother, William George, had gone to Australia, and the management of the farm devolved largely upon him; and for six or seven years he continued at home, the mainstay of the family.

November 27, 1867, he left his home with his face set toward the New World, and a few days later sailed from Liverpool on the "Old Virginia" of the National Line, arriving in New York after a sixteen days' voyage. He then went by steamer to Colon, or Aspinwall, and on Christmas day crossed the Isthmus of Panama bound for California. The train was so slow that he was able to pluck wild flowers along the way, and these he later sent back to English friends. From Panama he continued north on the water to San Francisco, and the day he entered the Golden Gate, in the early part of January, 1868, the city was white with snow. The picture thus presented was so very different from what he had anticipated through his reading about California, that he was not a little disappointed; but he soon forgot his astonishment and regret in the pleasure of again meeting his father, who was returning from a tour of the world, made by way of Australia, where he visited his eldest son; and when they had seen all the sights of the coast town, he accompanied his father to Salinas, from which point he left for Niagara Falls and Quebec. Little did he think that their farewell to each other was their last. Once out at sea, the reverend and revered parent was taken ill and died, and there his body was committed to the deep.

When his father left for the East, John Thomas remained for about a year and a half on a ranch where Salinas City now stands, when with his brother, the late Cecil Ray Goodchild, he set out to drive a herd of seventeen

hundred sheep into the Santa Maria valley, as far as the present Abraham Ontiveros ranch. The brother started from King City and crossed the Santa Maria river at the mouth of Suey creek, November 6, 1869. The winter was so dry, and there was so much drought during the spring, summer and autumn following, not a drop of rain falling until February 12, 1870, that much of the flock perished from thirst, and they were able to raise only three hundred of the lambs.

Joined by another brother, Harry Goodchild, John and Cecil rented the Tepesquet ranch, then owned by Juan P. Ontiveros, and continued to lease it until 1876. That and the following year were also characterized by drought, and so severely were they afflicted that, of a herd of five thousand head possessed by them, only four hundred fifty survived. This led the young ranchers to abandon the sheep business, after which Cecil went to Nevada for a while, but returned to practice law in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo, and there he died in his brother John's arms.

When the subject of our sketch came to the Santa Maria valley, not only were there no automobiles or telephones, nor even the telegraph, but there were no railroads or fences; there was nothing, one might almost say, but sheep, cattle, horses, Spaniards and half-breeds. Then the overland route, that is the old stage road from San Luis Obispo to Santa Barbara, had been laid out practically on the same lines as it is today. He used to be a thresher, and as such he worked both at the machine and as bookkeeper and roustabout, going from north of Paso Robles to the south of Santa Ynez, and can fairly claim that he has threshed grain in every field of the north end of Santa Barbara county.

Those early days, however, were not devoid of enjoyment and pleasures to alleviate the pressure and strain of hard labor. The rifle and the hunt were pastimes with Mr. Goodchild, although he found the greatest sport in capturing wild horses and cattle. Until very recently, when his eyesight began to fail, he got his annual legal allotment of deer, and he has shot nearly every kind of game known to the Coast Range. Dances, rodeos and enormous barbecues were common; and reference to these recalls a particularly delightful story of a special feast arranged in honor of nine men named Juan or John. On June 24, 1872, St. John's Day was to be observed as usual, and in anticipation of the event Juan Pacifico Ontiveros said to the subject of this sketch: "You have sheep, I have cattle; you kill sheep, I kill cattle, and we get the nine Johns together; then we will celebrate St. John's Day properly." Thereupon invitations were sent out to Juan Ontiveros, Juan Ruiz, Juan de la Cruz Ruiz, Juan Olivera, Juan Pedro Olivera, Juan Flores, Juan Pacifico Ontiveros, and one other whose name is not now recalled, together with John Goodchild, the latter the only one now alive. General invitations were also sent broadcast to everyone from far and near. The sheep and cattle were slaughtered; a ramada or arbor was made for the ladies, and for three days and three nights the feasting, dancing and other merrymaking of the festivity continued unabated.

Having thus traveled over much of the country, and being blessed with good powers of observation, Mr. Goodchild has amassed an amount of firsthand knowledge of great value to the historian. Occasionally he has contributed of his experience to the growing historical records of the state, as when some years ago he wrote a description of the Painted Rock in the Carissa

Plains, which is still considered, by many who have access to it in the early history of Kern county, one of the best accounts of the attraction ever penned.

In 1877, John Thomas Goodchild bought his present ranch of a hundred acres, and about the same time he married Miss Adela Ontiveros, the daughter of Ramon Ontiveros and a granddaughter of Juan P. Ontiveros; and through his association with this representative native family he has learned to speak, read and write Spanish fluently. Eight children were born to the happy couple, and five of them are still living: Faith Margaret is at home; Ramon William married Miss Hortensia Ontiveros, and his sketch appears elsewhere in this volume; Nellie is the wife of Clarence De Witt, who is interested in the oil business, and resides at Los Alamos with her child, Nellie Alice; Mary Elizabeth, called Bessie, and William George both live at home. An infant son; John Thomas, who died when fifteen; and Louisa, who died at the age of twenty-one, are the three children who have passed to the great Beyond. The lamented Mrs. Goodchild died in 1889, when the oldest of her offspring was only twelve years of age and the youngest less than a year old, and Mr. Goodchild has never remarried.

One of the pleasant recollections Mr. Goodchild has of his stay in Natividad is the fact that he was present at the time of the execution and delivery of the deed to the first lot sold in Salinas City. The deed was made out by Eugene Sherwood, who owned the Sausal ranch, where Salinas now stands; and the person who secured it was James Iversen, a blacksmith, who settled there then. What is particularly interesting to Mr. Goodchild today is the circumstance that Iversen made for him a spring-wagon costing three hundred dollars, and that this very wagon, in which he and his brother Cecil rode when they drove their seventeen hundred sheep into Santa Maria valley, is not only in a good state of preservation, but is still in actual service on the Goodchild ranch. Looking fondly upon this old spring vehicle in which he has traveled for thousands of miles, and which carried threshing crews every fall from 1887 until 1914, Mr. Goodchild says: "There will be no hearse to carry me to my final resting place, for I shall go in my old spring-wagon. While I live, no one except the sheriff will ever get it, and when I am gone they may do with it as they please." Let us hope that this old relic of pioneer days in the Santa Maria valley will some day be accorded a fitting place in the rooms of the State Historical Society, or in some equally appropriate and permanent headquarters.

Naturally, in his long residence and extensive travel throughout this western state, Mr. Goodchild has met and come to know, more or less intimately, many persons of unusual interest. One of these worthies was Benjamin Foxen, after whom Foxen Cañon was named, and who, probably the first Englishman to settle in the Santa Maria valley, came to California from London, doubling Cape Horn June 18, 1815, the memorable day of the decisive Battle of Waterloo. Foxen told him many incidents in his early experiences, and one of them nicely illustrates the cunning of the Indians when they set about stealing horses. Foxen at one time had a large number of mares that he had bought and was taking home to his ranch; and when overtaken at nightfall, he put a bell on one mare, penned them up in the corral and securely barred the gateway by means of long, strong poles. To make doubly sure that no one could come and steal them away, he took his blankets and lay down to sleep in the neighborhood with his rifle at his side.

All night he heard the tinkling of the bell, and rested easy, thinking his mares were safe in the corral; and the reader may imagine Foxen's surprise when, at daylight, he found every precious mare gone. At the point farthest away from the entrance a hole had been made through the side of the enclosure, and through the opening the Indians had driven the mares away over the mountains, stopping only when they reached the San Joaquin valley, so that he never recovered any of them. He was sure that he had heard the tinkling of the bell all night; and thus, calm and confident, he had not taken the trouble to get up and confirm his belief; nor was he mistaken in what he had heard. The redskins, however, having removed the bell, had artfully continued to ring it while the animals were being led off, and with such natural movements that even the experienced pioneer was deceived, and could not believe his own eyes when he discovered that his valuable property was gone.

A public-spirited citizen, Mr. Goodchild has often served on grand and petit juries. Of Democratic preferences, he has had no ambition for conspicuous position or office, although at one time, after declining to run as a candidate for the office of county clerk, he acceded to the wishes of friends and stood for election as supervisor, when he was defeated by only eleven votes. Of a retiring disposition, he has been content to remain quietly in the rear, more or less unnoticed by the passing show. All these years, however, he has watched the development of the country with intense interest and even joy, ready to help along every enterprise likely to make for the common welfare. Should some enterprising moving picture producer, therefore, interview him, he could get a correct idea of what has actually passed in the development of the great Santa Maria valley from the time when Mr. Goodchild settled here, and found it a waste of wilderness, to the present day, and it is safe to say that no more inspiring panorama of California, of historic merit, could be devised than that which might be produced under the guidance of this highly-favored pioneer.

**CAPTAIN ABNER CLARK.**—Captain Abner Clark was born at Sanford, York county, Me., on January 24, 1834, the second youngest of seven children, of whom only two are living. He was the son of Abner Clark, a farmer, and the grandson of David Clark, also a farmer, who was born of English and Irish ancestry. His mother was a native of Maine, a Miss Betsy Wakefield; and while the lad worked about the farm, the good mother saw to it that he was sent to school. Having finished with the grammar school, Abner was entered at the Alford Academy, and there he remained until he had nearly attained to manhood.

When about twenty, he set out into the world for himself, first trying his hand at the trade of ship carpenter in old Kennebunk Port, Me., where he followed shipbuilding for four years. He next shipped as a sailor and ship carpenter on Atlantic vessels. He made a voyage across the Atlantic and back on the "Lizzie Thompson," and coursed over much the same route and back on the "Sea Belle," and also on the "Regulus." He then went around Cape Horn, and returned again to the British Isles. As first mate on the barque "Union" he ran from Mobile to Boston, and then went from Mobile to Havre and returned. This ended his sailing on the Atlantic. Port Huron, Mich., then attracted him, and he started there a ship yard for the building of





*Richard Brown*



*Lucy Brown.*

vessels for the lake trade. He built twenty-four large and small vessels in about twelve years.

In 1885, he sold out everything and came to California, living about a year at Modesto, and in 1886 came to Creston. Here he engaged in the stock business, and began to operate the Cressy Ranch, which he continued until he retired. He now resides at Creston, and divides his hours between his work as a real estate agent and his official duties as Justice of the Peace. At Cleveland, Ohio, he married Miss Emma Cressy, by whom he had one son, Frank, foreman of the Cammatti Ranch.

**RICHARD BROWN.**—Sloping gently back into the hills, lies the celebrated Brown ranch, where, nestling in a cove in the horseshoe bend of a ridge, are the spacious and hospitable farm residence and outbuildings, to which cool spring water is piped, the site affording a beautiful view of the Cholame and Estrella valleys. It is, indeed, one of the most charming home places in the neighborhood, and one does not wonder that Mr. and Mrs. Brown love it dearly, for their children were born there, and there they grew to maturity—all large, sturdy, handsome men. Richard Brown, the proprietor of the ranch, was born in Leigh, Staffordshire, England, April 12, 1858, the grandson of Charles Brown, of Parkhall, Staffordshire, and the son of Joseph Brown, a native of the same place. His father was a farmer, and for twenty-one years the income-tax collector of that district. His mother, who was born near Cheadle, Staffordshire, was Miss Lydia Turner, the daughter of William Turner, once a farmer at Cheadle and later a resident of Broadgate, where he died. Of Joseph Brown's three children, Richard was the second oldest and the only one to come to the United States.

Educated at the national school at Leigh, Richard began, at the age of twenty-one, to farm for himself, renting land and operating a farm and dairy of thirty cows. He also raised thoroughbred Shropshire Down sheep and full-blooded, high-grade Shorthorn Durham cattle. On March 15, 1883, he was married, at Leigh, to Miss Lucy Collier, who was born at Stowe, Staffordshire, the daughter of John and Mary (Cottrell) Collier, both natives of that section. Mr. Collier owned a farm in Staffordshire, where he also conducted a dairy and made cheese; but he later moved to Fenton, and there he and his wife died. Grandfather Collier, also named John, was a farmer at Caton Hall, Staffordshire. Grandfather Clement Cottrell was one of the largest farmers in those parts; he had seventeen children, twelve daughters, all married to farmers, and five sons, who also followed agriculture. Mrs. Brown is the oldest of six children, and the only one in the United States.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Brown immediately came to America, reaching Portage county, Ohio, in April, 1883, and in May of the following year arriving in Oakland. At that time Mr. Brown took out his first papers preparatory to securing American citizenship. Soon after, he went to work on the Maxwell ranch near Sonoma, and then, for eighteen months, on the Emerson stock ranch in San Mateo county, whence he went to the farm of Levi Jones in Stanislaus county. August 4, 1886, he located on the nucleus of his present ranch, and he still likes to tell of the journey thither. They came by stage from the end of the railroad to San Miguel, and then by teams, and took a look at the Cholame country with the idea of selecting a homestead; and having decided on what they now possess as the best anywhere to be had, they later brought out their trunks and few belongings. They first



located a pre-emption of a hundred sixty acres, and when that was proved up they located a homestead, and also a tree culture adjoining, creating a ranch of four hundred eighty acres, and one that not a few neighbors and visitors greatly admire. He bought a team and turned the first furrow on the land; but as the crop was light the next summer, he went to the San Joaquin Valley and worked there with his team through the harvest.

In the beginning, the hill land he purchased was considered too rough to cultivate, and good only for stock; and in 1887 he leased seventy acres from the R. B. Turner place, and in his harvest obtained eight hundred twenty-five sacks of wheat. What he did not use for seed he hauled to San Luis Obispo and sold in the market. He raised more and more each year, and stuck to cattle and grain in spite of financial failures and various ups and downs, with the result, as might be expected, that in the end he enjoyed success. When the combined harvester came into vogue, Richard Brown, with his usual enterprise, bought one, and since then he has always used one kind or another of improved machinery. For some years he rented from the West Coast Land Co., and then he began buying lands adjoining his own. He also began to farm upon the hills, and found to his agreeable surprise that, as the soil is heavy and strong, he could easily obtain good crops there. Part of his success, it is interesting to observe, is due to his having invested in a combined harvester capable of adjustment to upland grades.

For many years Mr. Brown was engaged in dairying, but now he devotes himself mainly to the raising of grain, Durham cattle and draft horses of the Percheron-Norman strain. His brand, now so well and favorably known, consists of the two figures 3 3, connected at the bottom. The Brown ranch has over four thousand acres of land, and is well watered by springs; it has six hundred acres so situated that they can be plowed, while half of the area is yearly sown to grain. In the operation of this extensive ranch, two big teams are employed, and these teams assist in cutting the grain both of this ranch and of others near by.

Decidedly a man of public spirit and of vision, Richard Brown went in for improvements both upon and near to his property. He built, for example, the road from the Cholame thoroughfare for the distance of a mile to the beginning of his ranch; and in 1886 he hauled the lumber from San Luis Obispo for his first house of two rooms, and for a small shed made of boards, for his horses. He was fortunate when he dug his first well, striking water at eighteen feet. Since then he has piped water to his residence and barns from a spring some distance from his residence, which furnishes excellent water for all purposes. All this has been accomplished by ceaseless energy and close application, in which he has been ably assisted by his wife, who is endowed by nature with much business acumen.

While they lived at Freedom Station, Portage county, O., on December 28, 1883, their first baby, a beloved little daughter, was born, of whom they were bereaved on April 2, 1884. She is now buried in the Charlestown cemetery. Since coming to California, however, they have been blessed with four children, all born on the Brown ranch: Evan, who owns a farm on the Cholame; and Earnald, Horace, and Stanley, who are all at home. Earnald and Horace are operating the home ranch and also own the Coyote Springs ranch of nine hundred sixty acres adjoining.

A Progressive Republican in politics, and always looked to for counsel and leadership, Mr. Brown was a trustee and clerk of the board for the school district of Cholame for several years. In matters of religious worship, he and his family are Episcopalians.

**PETER TAYLOR.**—One of the most highly-respected citizens of San Luis Obispo County, and one who left his impress upon the community where, for many years, he made his home, was the late Peter Taylor. He was born in Perthshire, Scotland, December 7, 1837, and attended the public schools of his vicinity until he was thirteen years old, when, with his father, John Taylor, he came to America in 1851. There were six children in the family. They settled in Delaware county, N. Y., where the father engaged in farming. Peter lived at home until he was twenty-one years of age, and then followed carpentering until 1863. Then he left for California, coming by way of Panama to San Francisco; from which place he went to Marysville, where he was engaged in ranching for a year. On account of the climate he was unable to remain there; and removing to Sonoma county, he resumed his occupation until 1869, coming in that year as a pioneer to San Luis Obispo County. Locating in Green valley, he purchased two hundred acres of land, and was one of the first settlers in that section. He engaged in grain farming, and the grain was shipped to San Francisco by boat. He gradually worked into dairying, and added to his holdings from time to time until, at the time of his death, he was owner of eleven hundred acres of fine land, considerable of which he had improved with buildings and fences. There are three sets of farm buildings on the property.

He was a member and trustee of the Presbyterian Church at Cambria, and a man whose word was considered as good as his bond. On a visit to Hamden, Delaware county, N. Y., after an absence of many years, he was married, December 30, 1874, to Jane M. McDougall, a native of that county, who was born on February 28, 1844. They were blessed with the following children: John A., Agnes J., Alexander and Peter J.

The parents of Mrs. Taylor were Archibald and Agnes (Salton) McDougall, both born in Scotland—the former in Glasgow in 1810 and the latter in 1811. Mr. McDougall was a blacksmith by trade in Scotland, accompanied his parents to America in 1832, and settled in Delaware county, N. Y., and there he followed farming until his death. His wife came to this country with her parents in 1830 and settled in Delaware county, where she was married in 1840. She became the worthy mother of seven children.

John A. and Peter J. Taylor are dairying on Santa Rosa creek; Alexander and Agnes J. reside with their mother on the old home ranch; the former having the management of the estate since the death of his father.

**ASA W. ABLES.**—To have been connected with the pioneer development of the Santa Maria valley is an honor accorded few families, and one of these is represented by Asa W. Ables of Santa Maria, owner of fifteen acres in the residential district, a ranch of one hundred twenty acres east of Orcutt, five houses in the district he platted as an addition of five acres to the city, besides the Ables brick building in the business district. A native of the state, he was born in Tomales, Marin county, January 12, 1868, a son of Thomas B. Ables, who was born in Guernsey, O., and who was married in Iowa, in 1854, to Elizabeth Shuman, a native of that state. In 1857 they outfitted for the trip across the plains with ox-teams and prairie schooners.

taking five months and ten days to complete the journey to Humboldt county, and having settled there for a time, they then came to Marin county and located on a ranch near Tomales, engaging in ranching with success.

In 1874 the family came down to Guadalupe and lived for a short time; then they moved to a place on the Mesa between Santa Maria and Los Alamos, where they bought and improved some land. The hard times of 1893 caused him serious financial loss, although he had retired to a home in town in 1887. He was favorably known to the citizens of the valley, though he rarely mixed in public affairs; and he was honest, upright and generous. He passed away December 16, 1905, aged seventy-one. His wife survived him until September 3, 1913, when she passed away at the age of eighty years. Their seven children were: Mrs. Alice Bassett, deceased; J. W., or Will, as he is familiarly known, a carpenter and builder of Santa Maria; Walter, the beet raiser, near Santa Ana; Josie, who lives in Butte county; Asa W., of this review; Dora, the wife of A. F. Fugler of Santa Maria; and Kittie, who married George Lucas and lives at Biggs, Butte county.

Asa W. Ables was but six years old when he accompanied his parents to Santa Barbara county. He had just learned his ABC's in Tomales, and now he went to school under pioneer conditions in the Agricola district, which was among the first schools to be organized in the valley, his father having erected the school building. The balance of his education has been obtained in the rough school of exacting experience. He learned to drive a team and turn a furrow on the home place, and later became a teamster, hauling goods and supplies from Port Harford, then the nearest shipping point. Mr. Ables well remembers the building of the Pacific Coast Railway and the rapid development of the country after its completion. His principal work has been as an agriculturist, and he is accounted a good farmer. Under the firm name of Ables & Smith he is engaged in raising grain and beans on rented land belonging to different parties, and gets the best of results. Coming to this valley when a small boy, Mr. Ables has had a rich pioneer experience, and what success has come to him has been the result of his own individual efforts, assisted by his wife.

On January 30, 1893, Mr. Ables and Louie Johnson, a native of Pike county, Illinois, were united in marriage. They have had no children of their own, but have reared and educated two of her sister's daughters, Elsie Fesler, who became Mrs. Thole of Santa Maria, and Ida Fesler, now Mrs. Kessell of San Diego.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Ables stand high in fraternal circles in Santa Maria, being members of the Eastern Star and the Rebekahs; while Mr. Ables is an Odd Fellow and a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. Elks. They are both members of the Christian Church and in politics support Republican principles.

**ALBERT JONES.**—In the person of this successful cattle raiser and business man, who died at Ortega Springs, near Amette, in January, 1909, and his esteemed daughter, Miss Sophia F. Jones, a woman of prominence, and the successful manager of her own ranch, California numbered among her energetic citizens representatives of a good old American family—that of John Paul Jones, the doughty founder of the American Navy—a family noted not only in Revolutionary times, but also in the War of 1812 and the Mexican War, and in whose possession is the Jones farm in Maine, which

dates back to Colonial times. The Jones family also took an active part in the Civil War, Harrison Jones, a brother of Albert, having served in a Massachusetts regiment as captain from start to finish.

Born in Augusta, Me., Albert was the son of Michael Jones, a farmer, but also a tanner by trade. Albert Jones was an expert log-driver on the Kennebec. By way of Panama he came to California, landing in San Francisco in 1852; and having worked for a year in the mines, he went to Santa Cruz county, where he built and operated several saw-mills, most of the time having a partner. In the early sixties he was twice sheriff of Santa Cruz county; then, with J. W. Scott, he engaged in the livery business in Santa Cruz. About this time the Indian wars in Arizona and New Mexico enabled the savages to burn railroads; and for a number of years Albert Jones bought and inspected railroad ties for the government, which he shipped to Arizona. From Santa Cruz, in 1881, he came to San Luis Obispo for the Loma Prieta Lumber Co., serving as manager of their yard; and when it was consolidated with Swartz & Beebe, he became a third partner in the new firm of Swartz, Beebe & Co., continuing in that enterprise until the railroad put in its own yard, and the firm sold out to the new competitors. Over ten years ago he retired from business; and he spent the rest of his days at his Ortega Springs ranch, in Cholame valley, managing it until he died in January, 1909, at nearly eighty years of age. Highly esteemed, both as a citizen and as a Mason, he was buried in Santa Cruz with all Masonic honors. His younger brother, Captain Harrison Jones, located in Los Angeles and died in the early seventies.

The wife of Albert Jones, who was Miss Mary Elizabeth Wilson before her marriage, was born in Tatmagouche, N. S., the daughter of William Wilson, a farmer, who was accidentally killed by the fall of a tree when she was only eighteen months old. On November 24, 1907, she died on their home ranch in California, mourned by many and especially, outside her family circle, by her Episcopalian friends. Two years previously she had laid to rest her son, Charles Albert. The only other child, Miss Sophia Frances Jones, survived her. Charles Albert was born in Santa Cruz, where he was educated, and later became a cattle raiser at Ortega Springs ranch until 1899, when an unfortunate accident (a fall from his horse) caused partial paralysis, which resulted in his death in May, 1905.

**SOPHIA F. JONES.**—Born in Santa Cruz, Sophia F. Jones was educated at the public and high schools of that city and, in 1881, entered the University of California, matriculating in the College of Letters. There she remained until, while a senior, she was called home on account of the illness of her mother. She then engaged in educational work, teaching for twenty-three years in Kern and San Luis Obispo counties. In October, 1886, she came to Cholame valley to teach, and she and her brother each pre-empted one hundred sixty acres, filling the requirements of the law and proving up.

After the death of her brother, she devoted all her attention to the care of her mother and father until they died, and after that to the management of her estate. Her father had bought the Ortega Springs ranch in 1887. At first the ranch included three hundred twenty acres, to which Miss Jones later added twice that amount; and as there was an abundance of spring water, she was able to irrigate the land and to successfully engage in the cattle-raising business. More recently, she has rented five hundred sixty

acres of the estate for the raising of grain and the remainder for the raising of cattle. The land is very fertile; and her gardens are the wonder of visitors to the ranch, her vegetables grow in such abundance and luxuriance.

Miss Jones, always a social favorite, is a member of Santa Lucia Parlor, Native Daughters of the Golden West of San Luis Obispo, and of Bethlehem Chapter, O. E. S., at Paso Robles. During the many years she engaged in educational work, she gave her best efforts to instruct the students in the most advanced methods, keeping in touch with the leading educators of the state, and specializing along her particular line of teaching. She is a member of the Episcopal church.

**JOSEPH AND JOSEPH CLARKE WELSH.** A native son of the Golden West and a representative of one of the pioneer families of San Luis Obispo County, J. C. Welsh was born in the Los Osos valley, December 29, 1869. His father, Joseph Welsh, was a native of Ireland, born in Monaghan county in 1836, and his grandfather, Thomas Welsh, was born there also, and was a farmer. Joseph Welsh was reared in his native county until a young man, when he made up his mind that he could better his condition by coming to this country; and accordingly, in 1860, he arrived in California by way of Panama and went to work near the town of Bloomfield, Sonoma county. After four or five years he went to Tomales, Marin county, and leased land and farmed for several years, meeting with fair success.

Learning that acreage could be bought very cheaply in San Luis Obispo County, as one of the large grants was being subdivided, he came here in 1869, and with a partner, Levi Young, bought from W. W. Stowe 2,120 acres on the Los Osos and began farming, raising sheep and cattle, continuing this four years. The partners agreed then to divide their property and Mr. Welsh continued alone until 1876, when he made a trip back to Ireland and took charge of the home place, which had been farmed by his father for many years. He remained there until 1884, when he sold out, settled his business affairs and returned to California; and once again he engaged in ranching on a place in Clark valley until 1912, when he retired to San Luis Obispo, living here until his death, July 20, 1913.

Mr. Welsh had made a trip back to Ireland to claim his bride, Charlotte McCullagh, of Scotch descent, but a native of county Monaghan, where she was born May 30, 1838; and they were married on June 3, 1865, returning at once to California. They had two children, one of whom was Thomas M., who married Miss Agnes Lewis and had three daughters, Floride, Lois and Jean, residing in this county; and the other and younger was Joseph C. Welsh.

Joseph Clarke Welsh was educated in the schools of San Luis Obispo County and of Ireland, whither he had been taken by his parents. Returning to California, he lived at home until he was of age, assisting his father with the work on the farm. Later, with his brother Thomas M., as a partner, he leased the home place and for nearly six years was engaged in dairying and general farming. In 1897, he purchased his brother's interest and continued alone. In the meantime, he had bought four hundred acres of land. He farmed on a large scale until 1913, when he retired to San Luis Obispo.

On November 10, 1897, Mr. Welsh was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Jones, who was born in Washington, D. C., December 12, 1870. Their first child, a daughter, Mary Lucille. In 1911, Mr. Welsh secured

the contract to carry mail from San Luis Obispo to San Simeon, and he still engaged in that occupation. He represents that sturdy type of manhood everywhere discernible in the upbuilders of this country, and wherever he is known he is respected.

**CHARLES CARSON.**—A charming instance of filial devotion and the happy union of two representative families form the high-lights in the interesting story of Charles Carson and his estimable wife, well-known residents in the pleasant district of Adelaida. Mr. Carson is a native of New Brunswick, where he was born at Norton Station, on November 27, 1867. His father was James Carson, a farmer and carpenter in that district, who, on leaving his native place, moved to Holton, Me., and later to Boston, where he spent his last days. His mother, who died in Maine, was Miss Annie Britton before her marriage. She was born in Dublin, Ireland.

The seventh eldest of ten children, and the only one living in California, Charles Carson was brought up in New Brunswick, where he attended the public schools, and then, from his fourteenth year, in Maine, where he worked as a painter and later was employed in a hotel. In the great boom year of 1887, he first came to California, stopping for a while in Los Angeles, where he drove a wagon for the wholesale butchers, Adamson & Stevens, a firm later known as Burbridge & Adamson. At the end of three years he entered the service of Grant Bros., railroad contractors, working for seven or eight years as their foreman in California and Arizona; after which he resigned to come to Fresno, where he was busy for another year.

The next camping ground of Charles Carson was in the great northern State of Washington, and there fate smiled upon him; for at Aberdeen he met and married Miss Maud Harris, a daughter of Dr. Andrew Harris, who was a skilled and successful veterinary surgeon, well and favorably known along the coast. Andrew Harris was married in Indiana in 1847 to Sarah McClellan, a native of Ohio, who was an own cousin of General George B. McClellan of Civil War fame. She was a daughter of William and Mary Likens, and was born on February 29, 1828, in Wayne county, O. From Indiana Dr. Harris moved to Wisconsin and then to Missouri; and about 1859 or 1860 he drove his ox teams across the great plains and located at Salt Springs, and then in the San Joaquin Valley, not far from Stockton. In 1870, he took up his residence at Cayucos, where he had a dairy of seventy cows; and three years later he homesteaded a hundred sixty acres at Adelaida, which he improved and made into a first-class farm, meanwhile following his profession as a practical veterinary surgeon. In 1890, he settled down in San Luis Obispo, and there, on March 22, 1905, he died. Mrs. Harris, who was always a most faithful wife, made her home with Mrs. Carson, dying on December 9, 1915. Her daughter found great pleasure in administering to her mother's comfort in the latter's declining years. Four children besides Mrs. Carson made up the Harris family: Samuel, David and Mrs. R. A. Clink, of San Luis Obispo; and Mrs. Mary McMurry, of Oregon.

Mrs. Carson was a babe in her mother's arms when she crossed the plains. She was reared and educated in California, and after her marriage removed to San Luis Obispo County, about 1902. First the Carsons went to Templeton, and then they settled at Adelaida, where they soon bought a ranch which they conducted for three years. This they finally sold, whereupon they bought two ranches, one of which they disposed of later, while the other

employment is devoted to the raising of grain, hay and stock, constitutes their present place.

Few ranch folk know better how to farm than Mr. and Mrs. Carson, who have gone into poultry as a specialty. In partnership with James Whitsitt, they rent seven hundred forty acres in the neighborhood. Together they engage in the raising of cattle, buying calves and letting them run upon the range. In this latter enterprise they have enjoyed handsome returns, while they have been particularly fortunate in their poultry business. Their success must be largely attributed to their own experience and enterprise; but doubtless some of it is due to their erection here of large and sanitary chicken-houses, on the Corning plan. Wherever you go you may search, and search widely, before you find a more attractive poultry ranch than theirs.

**WILLIAM HENRY TULEY.**—The distinction of being the oldest settler on the Estrella plains belongs to W. H. Tuley and his wife. He was born in Howard county, Mo., January 23, 1843, a son of Nathaniel Tuley, who came from Virginia, where he was born, a son of Charles Tuley, likewise a Virginian, who moved to Lewis county, Mo., with his family and engaged in farming. Nathaniel Tuley married in Howard county, Mo., and then moved to Lewis county, and two years later to Randolph county, the same state, where he farmed and passed his last days. His wife was Eliza Towles, a native of Kentucky, who died in Missouri. They had three sons and one daughter, three of whom are living.

William H. Tuley was brought up on a farm in Randolph county, near Huntsville, attended the public school there and worked on the home farm until his enlistment in the Confederate Army in 1862. He served in a Missouri cavalry regiment, under General Joseph Shelby, in Missouri and Arkansas. He then went with Price's army as an infantryman to the first Battle of Corinth. On their return to Missouri his time was out, and he re-enlisted for three years or during the war. He furnished his own horse, saddle and arms and took part in the various battles of his command until the close of the war. He then returned home and was married in Boone county, Mo., in September, 1865, to Miss Nancy Tuley, who was born near Monticello, Lewis county, in that state. Her parents were Henry and Margaret (Henton) Tuley, and were natives, respectively, of Virginia and Kentucky. They farmed in Lewis county, moved from there to Kansas, settling near Osawatomie, and from there went to St. Clair county, Mo., and in 1870 came to California. The father died in San Luis Obispo and the mother on the Tuley farm on Estrella plains. Mrs. Tuley was educated in the public schools of Kansas and Missouri, and was reared on the farm of her parents.

In the fall of 1871, Mr. Tuley brought his family to San Luis Obispo, and two years later, in 1873, came to this location, where he has since resided, and which has been the scene of his activities for forty-four years. He pre-empted one hundred sixty acres, and homesteaded a like number, adding to his holdings until he has six hundred forty acres five miles northeast of Paso Robles. On this land he has made all the improvements, put up substantial buildings and plowed the land, raising grain from year to year, and has met with most gratifying results. He long has had all the modern appliances and machinery necessary to carry on his large operations. To get started, however, Mr. Tuley worked on the coast for the first two years, and during this time Mrs. Tuley took care of the cows, raised chickens, sold





Wm. and Ellen J. V. White





butter and eggs and earned the money to pay on the preemption. In early days all the grain had to be hauled over the mountains to San Luis Obispo. He was one of the original incorporators of the Farmers' Alliance Business Association that built the larger Alliance warehouse in Paso Robles, which has been of great benefit to the grain-growers of this section. He paid in the first money, and had stock certificate No. 1, and was one of the original directors, serving until he resigned.

For many years Mr. Tuley also served as school trustee of the Estrella district, and took an interest in all movements for the upbuilding of the county. In political matters, he still votes the Democratic ticket on national issues, but in local matters selects the men he considers best qualified to fill the position, regardless of party lines. He and his wife are members of the Church of Christ.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tuley nine children have been born: William Edgar is mining in Arizona; Joseph S. farms in Arizona; Lucy J. has become Mrs. Clark of San Luis Obispo County; Jacob Thomas is farming in the Pleasant Valley district; Nancy Mildred is Mrs. Wimmer of Paso Robles; John B. is a farmer on adjoining property; Elbert S. resides in Sacramento; Lillie B. remains at home; and Dovie Ethel is now Mrs. Bayer of Estrella.

**ANNIE L. MORRISON.**—A native of Illinois, Mrs. Morrison was born in Sycamore, November 22, 1860, a daughter of Benjamin Franklin Stringfellow, born in Pennsylvania, November 7, 1828, and of English extraction on the paternal side, while the mother, whose maiden name was Annie Archer, was of French descent. Her grandfather was sent from France by his family with valuable papers, jewels and money, to escape the terrors of the French Revolution, and he came to Philadelphia. Her mother was Mary Jane Barton, born in Ireland but brought to Philadelphia by her parents when she was an infant. Mary Barton was the daughter of William and Rebecca (Smith) Barton. The Barton family were from the north of Ireland. They were Protestants, originally from Scotland, where the name was Dumbarton. Mrs. Morrison's father and mother were married in Philadelphia, November 4, 1852, by Rev. Charles Demmi, and began married life at Darby, Delaware county, Penn. There her father was badly hurt by one of his horses, being kicked on the knee; and as a consequence he was in a hospital in Philadelphia for more than a year. He came out very lame and unable to work, and his wife supported him and herself by sewing, the hospital having absorbed all their money. At last her father decided he would "go West," and in the late fifties went to Sycamore, Ill.

Her parents had a large family, eight of whom lived to be men and women, and one of her earliest memories is that of seeing her mother with a little bundle of baby's clothes which she would caress and cry over, telling the children they belonged to their little brother Willie, her first son, who died when he was six months old. Her parents never amassed much property. "Times" during the Civil War were hard, the children many, and they early learned to help themselves. However, her mother, on the little she had to do with, kept her children neat, in school, and at Sunday school, and instilled into them the principles of decent, honorable living. Her father had a very good mentality, and his children inherited brains. Mrs. Morrison also inherited her father's near-sighted eyes, and says she has lost, in consequence, half the joy of living; for even with glasses, she has never been able to see much of the

beauty in nature that many others, blessed with good eyesight, do not properly value. With her brothers and sisters, she attended school in Sycamore. Her oldest brother, Bennie, was a fine boy, very good to them all, and very devoted to his mother. He became a fine mechanic and at twenty was pattern-maker in a big foundry. The other brothers, Harry and John, are well-to-do farmers—Harry in Iowa and John near Sycamore, Ill. Three sisters, Mary, Caroline and Mabel, are married to farmers. One sister, Elizabeth, has never married; and she keeps house for her bachelor brother, John.

In spite of her near-sighted eyes, Mrs. Morrison was a sort of wonder in school. She learned marvelously easy, could sing and "speak pieces," and soon acquired the ability to do well a few things all the others couldn't do. She liked to lead, and could get a following, and says, "I smile as I think of the joy of the little girl whose best dress was a clean calico, when she reached the place where girls in pretty dresses asked 'Annie' if they could play with her crowd. I had been sneered at because of coarse shoes and sunbonnets by these same girls; so it was only getting my innings, for it had cost my little soul hours of bitterness when they had twitted me of my lack of finery." She early learned to pit brains and character against mere money-bags, and has never found it worth while to change their relation. At the age of thirteen she went to town and worked for a Mrs. Pitcher for five months, at one dollar a week, to earn money for books and clothes so as to go on into high school. She worked for her board until fifteen and went to school, working vacations to earn money for books and clothes.

At Mrs. Pitcher's, she met Duane J. Carnes, a law student, who became a power in her life. He is now a Judge of the Appellate Court of Illinois. He directed her reading and to him and his parents she owes much. By the time she was fifteen, she had read all of Scott, Shakespeare, Dickens, Macaulay, Thackeray, and George Eliot, then published; and the American poets were bosom friends. At the age of fifteen and one-half she taught her first school. The county superintendent of schools, H. P. Hall, went to their little farm for her on June 3, 1876, and told her he had a school for her at Hogridge; the name sounded Shakespearean to that girl just then. "I had to wear my short skirts for a month, until I drew my first salary check, \$25.00; then I bought lots of goods, and as trains were in style, my best dress swept the floor in a beautiful curving train. Also my curls disappeared, I bought a jute switch and managed a fine 'chignon.'" She taught at Hogridge three terms, and at Charter Grove, Prairie, and the Casey school.

The summer before she was eighteen she went to Michigan, where she taught three years, near South Haven, at Covert and at Glenn. She then returned to Illinois and taught at Hinckley, in the town school, and then was vice-principal at De Kalb. She had always dreamed of coming to California; and in April, 1884, she arrived in Los Angeles. She passed the teacher's examination in July, and was fourth best out of forty-three who entered for certificates, of whom only eight won them. In September she went to Winters, Yolo county, and taught there three years—one year at Apricot school, and two as primary teacher in the town. On April 19, 1887, she was married to Hamilton Brown Morrison, a native of Stirling county, Scotland, who came to California when twenty-five years of age. They had a very beautiful wedding in the Christian Church, the Rev. Philip Bruton, pastor and friend,

As they both had many friends who united in

decorating the church, it was a bower of bloom; and six little girls, her pupils, were the dainty bridesmaids.

After the wedding they came at once to Templeton, where Mr. Morrison was in business, as will be seen by the article on Templeton. They had a little four-room house, and were trying to "grow up with the country" and win a fortune. In November, 1892, they moved into their new home just erected on an orchard tract, and that orchard was a thing of beauty to them. The time came, in 1900, when it spelled ruin instead, as the story of Templeton explains. They had two girls, Mabel Conise, born December 12, 1888, and Marian Cecile, born May 29, 1892, when they moved to their pretty home. Marjorie Helen was born there, August 17, 1894, and Robert Duane came early on the morning of July 17, 1896.

Mr. Morrison had trusted out his work and sold machinery on credit for thirteen years. The result was inevitable. The dry year of 1898-99 came, and at least \$5,000 worth of property and outstanding bills were a total loss. "What was worse, the best thirteen years of life went into the hole along with all his earnings and mine. His health broke completely, and it was up to me to be father and mother both to those helpless little children. I tackled the job, and my worst enemy would hardly say I made a bad end of it." She earned money writing and reporting for the San Luis Obispo Breeze and Tribune, collected for these papers, and finally got work reporting for the Los Angeles Times, and the San Francisco Examiner, Call and Chronicle. She wrote for the Sunday papers, and for Sunset and Overland. Sunset gave her a trip in 1905 to the Portland Exposition, and to Shasta Springs in 1907.

In August, 1901, she again went to teaching, going into the mountains and staying there four years at Alamo and Huasna. "I had to watch out for rattlesnakes and mountain lions. Once when I was belated, only torches made of twisted newspapers and carried in my hands, while my trembling horse walked with his head over my right shoulder for two miles through a cañon, saved one or both of us from a mountain lion that was following us in the brush beside the road. The lion was shot a few days later near our cabin. Again I had to swim good Nero across the Huasna with a buggy load of provisions when the rain was falling in torrents and the stream was a foam-capped yellow flood; but God takes care of fools and children, so we landed about a quarter of a mile below the ford. I think God takes care of mothers, too, when they need it as badly as I did then." She taught straight through for thirteen years. Meanwhile, she had gotten the three girls ready for teaching, and her son was in his last year at high school. They had a little home clear of debt. It had cost every cent of \$3,000. The children, the three younger ones, proudly paid off the last \$200 in June, 1913.

By then she was a physical wreck, ready for the hospital, and there she went. A great surgeon—great because he can take a poor wretch all gone to wreck, use his skill, and turn his patient out almost as good as new—did this wonder for Mrs. Morrison. Meantime the school powers had retired her on part retirement salary in June, 1914. "A bad sickness extending over three months in 1916 left me thinking I was on the junk pile, for sure. In August I was employed by H. A. Preston to write a history of our county for the Historic Record Company of Los Angeles. I had lived in the county for thirty years, and had surely lost out, and in a measure won out, within its borders. I had driven all over its mountain roads; I knew its beauty and its

"I have known many of its inhabitants, having taught in the county over ten years, and I went to work. I got intensely interested in its wonderful history; I walked and rode miles and miles; I haunted the courthouse officials for data, and I think I have written a truthful history. The work fascinated me, and I have gotten much valuable information during the time. I once thought I hated San Luis Obispo County, but that was during my hard times. I want to stay with it now until I get my final summons to another country."

**LEWIS C. ROUTZAHN.**—It is to the credit of such men as L. C. Routzahn that the flower-seed industry has been made a paying proposition in San Luis Obispo County, for since he settled in this state on account of ill health, he has risen from a very small beginning, in 1893, to one of the largest flower growers in the United States. Mr. Routzahn is a native of Illinois, having been born in Mt. Morris, a son of John and Katherin (Harbaugh) Routzahn, pioneer settlers in northern Illinois.

Lewis C. Routzahn was reared amid the pioneer conditions in the northern part of Illinois, and received his primary education in the public schools, afterwards attending Wittenberg College and the Theological Seminary at Springfield, Ill. He was ordained in the English Lutheran Church, and for over eight years was located at Three Rivers, Mich., and two years at Salina, Kan. It was on account of ill health that he came to California; and after looking about for a location, he selected the section about Arroyo Grande as a desirable one. Here he took up the study of flower seed growing and began on a small scale, possibly with no thought at the time of the influence he would wield in the near future. By degrees the business has been expanded, Mr. Routzahn giving it his constant attention; and during the past twenty-four years he has originated over one hundred varieties of flower and vegetable species, many of them standards, and on the markets today in various parts of the world.

Notwithstanding heavy losses by a fire in 1913, and since that by severe floods which washed away considerable of the land that was devoted to the growing of flower seeds, Mr. Routzahn is well pleased with the success he has made since embarking on his present career. He keeps abreast of the times in all things that pertain to his chosen vocation and is an authority on seed growing and preparation. During the passing of the years he has made his influence felt in various spheres, notably as one of the organizers and as a director of the San Luis Savings Bank, and also as a director of the Arroyo Grande Bank. He has served as a director of Wittenberg College; and as is but natural with one who is so partial to good schools, he has served as a trustee for many years of the high school of Arroyo Grande. He has supported Democratic policies and at one time was a candidate for the state assembly on a reformed platform, but failed of election. He is a Mason of the Knights Templar degree, and in religious affiliation is an English Lutheran.

Mr. Routzahn was united in marriage at Polo, Ill., August 12, 1885, with Lillian McClure, daughter of Thomas McClure. She was educated in Mt. Morris College and in Chicago. Of this union there have been born, Warren Willits, who married Florence Merrill; Paul Richard, who married Janet Hazzard; and Louis Webb, who married Nola Hazzard. During the years of his residence in San Luis Obispo County, Mr. Routzahn has been widening

his circle of close friends, and by all with whom he has had business or social relations he is highly respected as one who has done much for the county of his adoption.

**JOHNSON M. KALAR.**—Born near Kerns, Randolph county, W. Va., September 15, 1864, Johnson M. Kalar came of a line of agricultural pioneers, among whom was his grandfather, Jacob Kalar, who owned a farm on the Cheat river. His father was George W. Kalar, who was born on Cheat river at the mouth of Pleasant run, on the site of the Battle of the Wilderness, and who died near the place where he lived. His father and his uncle had a narrow escape during the Civil War that is little less than thrilling. It happened that they were hemmed in by both Union soldiers and Confederates, and before they got beyond harm's reach such a hail of bullets passed above and around them that the tops of trees were taken off as if they were so much grass before a mower. Johnson's mother, who was born near Kerns, and who now makes her home in California, was Miss Sarah E. Phares before her marriage. She became the mother of ten children, of whom seven are living.

Johnson Kalar worked industriously on a farm until he was about seventeen, meanwhile attending the public school. On July 21, 1881, he bought his time from his father, promising him that if he would let him go into the world and do for himself he would send back home each year the sum of one hundred dollars until he had reached the age of twenty-one. The father needing his services, but also having a thought for the son's future, made no serious objection to his going, and not many months passed before young Kalar found himself at Chualar, Monterey county, California, with just five cents left in his pocket. Even this balance he expended for postage to write to his mother, and having borrowed twenty-five dollars, he set out with obligations to the extent of four hundred and twenty-five dollars staring him in the face. In three weeks, however, he had earned, by very hard work on the hay press, the round sum of forty dollars, and thereafter he applied himself to one kind of work after another, driving a header or a plow, or filling sacks, but always getting somewhat ahead. He farmed for a while with his uncle, and then sold out certain interests and removed to Butte county, where he both farmed and engaged in mining.

Somewhat successful, he came to Soledad with the intention of selling teams he had left there and returning home to his parents; but unable to dispose of them to advantage, he was forced to remain in California. Thomas Fall, who owned a well-known San Luis Obispo County ranch, sought the services of the young colonist and induced him to rent some land and strike out in agriculture for himself. The first year he lost everything, and in order to keep going was compelled to give R. M. Shackelford a crop mortgage; and from that time on he began to succeed. The first season or two he was able to pay off his obligations and to lay aside some money through his raising of grain and stock, and in 1898 he began to buy land, adding from time to time until he has seventeen hundred eleven acres in the home place east of the Salinas river and four hundred forty acres west of the state highway about a mile from San Miguel. These ranches would extend for five miles, were it not for a break of half a mile owned by another party. It was with much labor and expense that this land has been brought under cultivation, some of it costing twenty dollars per acre to clear from brush and to break.

Mr. Kalar has become greatly interested in horticulture, making a specialty of almond culture, and on his home ranch has set out eighty-six and one-half acres in four varieties of almonds, IXL, Texas Pacific, Nonpareil and Ne Plus Ultra. The four hundred forty acres west of the river has been subdivided into tracts ranging from six to twenty-five acres; one-fifth of the area has been set to almonds and the balance will be planted in the near future and sold to homeseekers. The whole tract lies sufficiently elevated to make it most excellent for almond raising. Over one hundred acres has been checked and sown to alfalfa, and to irrigate these lands he has laid over eleven thousand feet of cement pipe, made under his direction and from sixteen to eighteen inches in diameter. Five different sets of buildings, seven large barns and a concrete structure, 54x20x13 ceiling, for a cheese factory, but now a separator room, attest to the scope of Mr. Kalar's operations. He has sunk wells, and has installed pumps and gas, water and electrical apparatus to operate the machinery on the place. He rents out his dairy, which includes sixty to seventy cows.

On February 3, 1895, at San Miguel, Mr. Kalar was married to Miss Bertha Dake, who was born in Oregon, a daughter of John and Harriett (Bixby) Dake, natives, respectively, of New York and Wisconsin. They were married in the latter state, and in the pioneer days crossed the plains with ox teams and wagons to Oregon, where Mr. Dake engaged in lumbering and burning charcoal. In 1880 the family moved to San Jose, thence to Santa Cruz and later to San Miguel, where the father died. The mother passed away in Santa Rosa. Mrs. Kalar is the fourth child in a family of nine children and was reared and educated in Santa Cruz. Mr. and Mrs. Kalar have had nine children, seven of them living; George is attending Heald's Business College at Santa Cruz; Carl is at the Paso Robles high school; Marion, Douglas, Hiram, John and Woodrow complete the family circle. In every sense of the word, Mrs. Kalar has proven a good helpmate, and a large share of the credit for what they have attained is certainly due to her. Both are members of the Methodist Church of San Miguel, of which Mr. Kalar is also a trustee. In political affairs he is an ardent Democrat.

**STEPHEN HENRY TOBEY.**—Not every Californian can trace back his ancestry with the same ease and pride as Stephen Henry Tobey, long a leader in the enterprising community of Shandon. His great-great-grandfather, Silas Tobey, was born on November 4, 1704, and died on December 14, 1790. His great-great-grandmother, Mary Tobey, was born on October 22, 1705, and died on April 21, two years after the demise of her husband. It may be guessed that the Tobey's are of English descent, and it goes without saying that the family tree had its root in the old Puritan stock of historic Plymouth. Mr. Tobey's great-grandfather was Captain Stephen Tobey, of Sandwich, Barnstable county, Mass.; and Stephen Henry Tobey possesses the old captain's log, written while he was master of the ship "Suwarrow," on a trip from the Orient to New York City. This Captain Tobey was married on Thanksgiving Day in 1771 to Rebecca Ellis, who died on April 14, 1822; and he died on March 9, 1828. The grandfather of our subject was Ellis Tobey, who was born in Maine, on January 6, 1791, and who owned, at one time, the farm now constituting the site of the State of Maine Insane Asylum at Augusta. He married Mary Ella Yeaton, a daughter of Phineas and Phoebe (Wentworth) Yeaton, the latter being a daughter of Timothy and Amy (Hodgdon) Went-

worth, of Berwick, Me., who settled in Hallowell, the same State, in January, 1778. Phineas Yeaton descended from Philip and Ducas (Smith) Yeaton, also of Berwick. The father of Stephen Henry Tobey was Charles E. Tobey, who was born at Augusta. He was a cabinet-maker and followed that trade in different States. Drifting South, he settled in Arkansas, where he married Angelina Poplin, who was born in Georgia of an old Southern family. After his marriage he took to farming, and owned a farm in the river bottom near Little Rock. With his adopted State he served in the Civil War, having charge of the commissary in his regiment. Later he removed to California and took up a homestead; but tiring of this, he went to Texas, where he died at Nocona, at the age of ninety-six years. The mother died at Dallas, aged eighty-four. Of their eleven children, eight are still living—one, the subject of our sketch, being in California. A son, George Tobey, was a pioneer in the Shandon district, where he pre-empted one hundred sixty acres and homesteaded another block of the same size; but while farming, he sustained such serious injury to his ankle through a runaway team that it caused his death.

After the usual farm experience and a taste of the public schools such as was common to most boys in Arkansas at that time, Stephen Henry, at the age of sixteen, began to learn the marble cutter's trade, to accomplish which he was apprenticed to his brother-in-law, T. J. Smith, at Fort Smith, Ark.; and at that trade he worked ten years. When, however, in the spring of 1884, his brother George died in California, he came to the Coast and in partnership with a brother, Charles E. Tobey, took charge of George's ranch. In a short time they had paid off all the debts. Soon after, they bought out the other heirs, and together they continued for several years. They also bought out their father's estate in Shandon. They had now eight hundred forty acres in a body; and there, when the brothers dissolved partnership in 1895, Mr. Tobey continued with his proverbial success. Today he owns six hundred twenty acres just east of Shandon and two hundred acres of this is bottom land. He has a flowing artesian well and also a large spring, so that the entire land can be placed under irrigation. There grain and Durham cattle are raised, together with the finest of draught horses.

On October 8, 1868, at Charleston in Arkansas, Mr. Tobey led to the altar Miss Olivia Parks, a belle of the town, and the daughter of Captain William James Parks, who was born in Mobile, Ala., and who was a farmer in Franklin county, Ark., where he died at the age of fifty-eight. He served as a Confederate Captain in the Civil War, and was particularly active as a Master Mason. Her mother was Amanda Dovety House, who was born in Alabama and died in Arkansas at the age of fifty-four, the mother of fifteen children, of whom seven are still living. Two children have been born to bless Mr. and Mrs. Tobey's union: Irene, who is now the wife of Clifford Barnes, a hustling farmer two miles from Shandon, and who has one child, Mace; and Kathleen, who is at home. As a trustee and clerk of the Shandon School District for the past fifteen years, Mr. Tobey has manifested a pronounced interest in the cause of education; and it is largely through his efforts that the very creditable new schoolhouse at Shandon, completed in 1914-15 with every modern convenience, was built. Mr. Tobey is a Democrat in politics, and decidedly progressive. He finds in his excellent wife a worthy and sympathetic companion.



**COL. WILLIAM V. POWELL.**—The name of Powell has been a familiar one in the Santa Maria valley since 1881, when Col. William V. Powell took up a homestead of eighty acres south of the river on the main highway leading to the north, now the state highway, and improved a ranch with buildings and fences, living there until the final roll call. He was born on May 22, 1826, in Brown county, Ohio, under pioneer conditions; for that was then considered the frontier. His education was secured in subscription schools. He early learned the details of farming. From 1830 to 1835, he lived in Indianapolis, Ind., going from there to Shawnee Prairie, Tippecanoe county, where he remained until 1847, when the next move carried him to Miami county, the same state.

In 1850, we find him a member of a train making the trip to California with ox teams and prairie schooners, a difficult and hazardous journey at that time. It is supposed that he came with the hope that he might wrest a fortune from the mines; however that may be, he remained three years, and then returned to Indiana. On September 11, 1853, he was united in marriage with Miss Mary A. Smith, youngest daughter of John Smith, a direct descendant of the Pilgrims, whose uncle, Caleb B. Smith, was a member of Lincoln's cabinet. A great-aunt of John Smith was Abigail Adams, wife of President Adams. This Smith family lived in Virginia during the War of the Revolution, and members married into the house of Randolph. The father of John Smith fought at Guilford Court House. The Powells are of English descent. Thomas W., grandfather of Col. Powell, was educated in London and at the age of seventeen sailed for America, bearing a lieutenant's commission in the King's Light Horse Cavalry. Twelve years later he deserted the English to offer his services to General Washington, for what he thought to be a more just cause. He fought through the Revolution and also under General Jackson, at New Orleans, where he was wounded in his left hand. He died in Boone county, Ind., in 1835, regretting that he could not live long enough to "lick 'em again."

Colonel Powell was engaged in the peaceful vocation of farming, near Xenia, now Converse, Ind., when the Civil War broke out. He put aside the plow, turned his teams out to pasture, and enlisted in the service of his country, helping to organize Company I, 99th Indiana Volunteers. He was elected captain and served with his command during the war, under General Sherman. On May 20, 1865, he was promoted to major; and on being mustered out, was commissioned lieutenant colonel.

After the war, he resumed his farming operations near Remington, Jasper county, Ind. In 1871, with his wife and two sons, Addison M. and William G., and his daughter Eldora, he again came to California, and settled in Mendocino county, where he engaged in farming and raising stock, and introduced the first Poland-China hogs into that part of the state. It was while living there that their daughter Ida was born, in 1874. In 1881 he moved to the northern part of Santa Barbara county, as mentioned, and took up his homestead, and there he lived until his death. His wife had passed away in 1885, and after her death he made his home with his daughters. Eldora became the wife of James Means of Hollister, Cal., and has one son. Walter is now an employe of the Union Sugar Co., at Betteravia. Ida M. is Mrs. H. G. Biff, and with her family of three daughters and one son lives with her husband on the old homestead. While not a recorded member of the Daugh-

ters of the Revolution, she is one in fact. Addison M. Powell was a scout and guide for the United States Military Expedition that explored the Copper river country in Alaska during 1899-1900. He wrote "Trailing and Camping in Alaska," "Echoes From the Frontier," and other stories. He makes his home with his sister when in Santa Maria valley.

While a resident of this valley, Colonel Powell was interested in every good work that came to his notice that had for its object the upbuilding of this section of the state. He was an advocate of good roads, good schools, churches, transportation facilities and the establishment of good markets, and with other pioneers laid the foundation for the present prosperous condition of the valley. When he answered the final call he was mourned by a large circle of friends who valued him for his upright character and his sterling worth.

**ALLEN LLOYD THOMAS.** It is no insignificant matter for a man, trained to a profession and invited by a smiling world whose honors he had expected to enjoy, to turn aside into other paths and there endeavor to make his way; but this is what Allen Lloyd Thomas, by adoption a Californian, and long an esteemed American citizen and successful rancher, did, his bold example suggesting more than one valuable lesson to the youth of today. In historic old Shropshire, England, he was born, in 1854, the grandson of John Thomas, who passed his entire life in that country as a farmer, and the son of John and Margaret Thomas. The father was a tiller of the soil in Shropshire, but later removed to Montgomeryshire, where he followed agriculture on a larger scale until his death on July 5, 1903, in his seventy-fifth year. An uncle, Professor Gethin Davis, was a noted educator and clergyman in England, for many years the head of the College Llangollen in Shropshire.

Allen Lloyd Thomas was educated for the bar; but he chose farming instead, and until his marriage followed that occupation in Montgomeryshire. His marriage occurred at St. Nicholas Church, Liverpool, on June 22, 1883, when he was joined in wedlock to Miss Annie Williams, a native of Montgomeryshire and the daughter of Evan Williams, who was born there, and who farmed on a large scale. After a most exemplary life, during which he was for sixty years or more clerk of the parish of Llanfihangel—a position his father, John Williams, had held before him most of his life—he died at the fine old age of eighty-one. Her mother's maiden name was Elizabeth Bromley, and she was born and died in Montgomeryshire. Of the eight children born in the family, and of the five who are living, Mrs. Thomas was the youngest; and she is the only representative of her family in California. She received her education in England.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas came to the United States, arriving in New York City on July 4, 1883; soon after which they crossed the continent to California. They settled in Alameda county, where he eventually became superintendent of the Watkin Williams Wynne ranch at Livermore, continuing there for five years. Then, with his family, he made a trip back to England to see his relatives and friends, remaining for two years; but the call of the West was too strong to be resisted any longer and he returned to California, and soon afterwards, in 1892, they came south to San Luis Obispo County, where he had accepted the management of the Eureka ranch of six thousand acres.

After he had given several years to the responsibilities of that position, Mr. Thomas decided to become a landowner and purchased forty acres on the Salinas river, which he cleared and improved, setting out an orchard which is now in full bearing condition. This was accomplished in face of the trouble made them by jack-rabbits and squirrels, whose depredations necessitated, in some cases, replanting a couple of times. Such, however, is the quality of the rich bottom land of their ranch, that their orchard of prune trees has come to be regarded as one of the best in the country. In advertising their fruit, too, they have been very successful, the B. P. O. E. prunes, as they are called, having come to be a commodity in regular demand in all the stores. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas also lease other lands where they engage in stock-raising, making a specialty of breeding fine Shropshire Smithdown rams, and bringing into California thoroughbred rams and ewes.

When Allen Lloyd Thomas and his accomplished wife came to build the residence so appropriately named Mount Pleasant, they exercised judgment and taste that was soon apparent. There, at least once a year, they used to entertain their friends at a great barbecue and dinner, features of which were the toasts and responses, music and the dance, making up a program of varied pleasure. On all occasions, Mr. Thomas' charm as a conversationalist, the result of extensive and solid reading, contributed to the happiness of the guests. Another source of attraction at the home of this hospitable couple was the children, of whom there are five. Marguerite Ann has become Mrs. J. C. Spillman, of Atascadero; while Trevor Lloyd, Florence Genevieve, Helen Laurine and Archibald Lincoln assist the mother in her present horticultural enterprise.

In King Solomon Lodge, F. & A. M., of San Francisco, Mr. Thomas was made a Mason, and he was also a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 322, B. P. O. Elks. He was one of the founders of the Eureka school district, helped build the first schoolhouse and served as one of the trustees. Politically, Mr. Thomas was decidedly a Republican. Throughout the county he enjoyed a wide acquaintance; but particularly in the county seat he was known and appreciated for his legal knowledge. Esteemed by all and mourned by many, he died February 28, 1910.

Since that time Mrs. Thomas, assisted by her sons and daughters, has continued to operate the ranch with such success that at the Upper Salinas Valley Fair, at Paso Robles in 1916, the Thomas prunes and other fruit took prizes and medals. In San Francisco, at the Panama-Pacific International Exhibition, their exhibit received very favorable comment. Mrs. Thomas and her family are hospitable and generous to a marked degree. They are adherents to the teachings of the Episcopal Church.

**JAMES WILSON GOODCHILD.**—A second and the only other representative in California of his generation of the distinguished Goodchild family of clergymen, lawyers and substantial merchants, which may be traced back to the year 1420 and was associated with English gentry, is James Wilson Goodchild, the brother of John Thomas Goodchild, who, after having circumnavigated the globe, has settled down to the quiet, but by no means humdrum life of a prosperous and enterprising Santa Maria Valley farmer. Born on April 30, 1855, at East Tilbury, England, where his father, Rev. William George Goodchild, was vicar, the grandson of Thomas Goodchild, a clergyman of that church of England, and the great grandson of William Thomas

Goodchild, a noted lawyer of his time, James left home, the eighth child in his family, at the age of eleven, when his father died at sea on his return from a tour of the world, and embarking at Plymouth went to Port Jackson, or Sydney, Australia, with his uncle, Charles Codrington, a stockman with whom he had been invited to live. To reach there, he sailed around the Cape of Good Hope, and on that journey spent one hundred seven days on the ocean.

He attended St. John's grammar school at Newcastle, Australia; but deciding, when he became fifteen, that he would join his brothers, John, Cecil and Harry, in California, he returned to England, travelling alone, via Cape Horn. He thus encircled the globe at a remarkably early age, the return trip consuming one hundred days; during which, from the time the vessel left Port Jackson until it reached London, it entered no port and made no stops. Happily, he found his mother, three sisters and two brothers at the familiar home place; and with them he remained until 1872.

In his sixteenth year, and when accompanied by his mother as far as Southampton, he left England again, this time shipping on the steamer "Tasus" for America and Aspinwall, from which place he crossed the Isthmus of Panama. A bloody revolution was going on there, and delayed him and his fellow-passengers for several days; but he finally reached the steamship "Mahongo," formerly a United States gun-boat, and sailed north to San Francisco. The voyage on the Pacific took twenty-eight days, and the vessel stopped at several Mexican ports and San Diego, reaching San Francisco in June, 1872. After a few days in that busy city, young Mr. Goodchild came to Salinas by rail, and thence by stage to the mouth of the Tepequet, where his brothers were engaged in sheep ranching. One of these brothers, Harry Goodchild, became deputy county clerk of Santa Barbara county and died in Michigan; and Cecil practiced law at San Luis Obispo, and died there.

In the fall and winter of 1876-77, James Goodchild started in the cattle business; but the terrible drought of the period brought him, as well as thousands of others, adversity, and within a short time he lost hundreds of cattle. His stock was marked with a brand that he purchased from his brother, Cecil—a figure six laid down.

In the more prosperous year, 1887, Mr. Goodchild bought his home ranch, consisting of eighty-seven and a half acres, then a mere stretch of desert, near the head of the Santa Maria Valley on the bank of the Sisquoc, upon which he has made all the improvements, creating an area of decided value. To this tract he has added some fourteen hundred acres of wooded lands lying in the Santa Barbara National Forest.

In 1881, James Goodchild was married to Miss Mariantonia Ontiveros, daughter of Ramon Ontiveros, and a granddaughter of Juan Pacifico Ontiveros, a charming lady and devoted wife, who has since died, leaving him with seven children: James William, Alexander Ralph, Francis Ramon, Edward Alego, Allen Christopher, Faith, and a son, Thomas Harry, who died at the age of seventeen.

A gentleman by instinct and culture, and in all his intercourse with his fellow men, and a patriotic citizen of independent views in politics, Mr. Goodchild, since he came to the Santa Maria valley, has led a life remarkably quiet if contrasted with his early roving by sea and land. He has not been out of the state since he came here in 1872, and has visited San Francisco only a

remains in this country, but never been south of Santa Barbara since pushing into the interior of California. He has no grandchildren; but his sons assist him ably in the management of the little home ranch, seeded largely to alfalfa, and in his extensive and important cattle business, for which some seventeen hundred acres are set aside. His intellect keen and his mind well stored, Mr. Goodchild has the power both of entertaining himself profitably and interesting others.

**JOHN H. POND.**—The student of biography cannot help being impressed with the fact that in all too many cases in life one or another ambitious and very deserving man or woman has been compelled to tread a pathway not only such as they would not willingly have chosen, but which, as far as our human ken permits us to judge, they never should have entered upon. In other words, one who is conversant with human affairs must admit that many persons who are eminently fitted for this or that line of activity or responsible undertaking have been prevented by untoward circumstances from entering into their reward, at least in this imperfect world. The life of John H. Pond, one of the most intelligent citizens of recent years in San Luis Obispo County, and a man who was always conspicuously active in movements for the uplifting of society, well illustrates these propositions; for he had a mind, a studious temperament and a well-balanced judgment, which should have enabled him to become a jurist of ability and influence, whereas he was compelled to exert his power as a man of ideals while pursuing plainer vocations, though perhaps just as essential as those of the law and of letters.

But six years before the death of his father, he was born on March 27, 1831, in Macoupin county, Illinois, of parents who originally came from Tennessee. He thus had to shift for himself very early; but he took for his motto "Whatever is worth doing is worth doing well," and so from the very beginning in school and at work, he stood high among his fellows. Even after having finished his formal schooling he continued his studies and wide reading, with the result that he was generally conceded to be a man of superior intelligence and unusual information.

Leaving school he was apprenticed to a saddler and harness-maker; and so well did he do his work there that it is said that a farmer, on one occasion, remarked to his master: "I'll buy the harness if you'll let John make it." Finishing his trade, he made for the great West, crossing the prairies as the most reliable of several assistants to a man who was leading westward an immense flock of sheep. Thoroughly surfeited, however, with the work of a sheep-herder, he left the train at Salt Lake City; nor could he afterwards bear to have anything to do with sheep. Moving about on his own account at Salt Lake for a year, he mended harnesses and saddles, and also worked for the United States Army forces stationed there.

About 1852 or 1853 he arrived in California, and at Sacramento he plied his trade as a saddler, maintaining a large shop. He next yielded to the gold fever and engaged in mining, experiencing there the same alternate success and failures as have buoyed and depressed thousands of others. Quitting the mines he located at Rio Vista, Solano county, and again opened a harness shop and business.

On May 2, 1872, he was married to Mrs. Mary (Lowe) Robinson, who was born in Vermont, N. H., on September 17, 1835. Her father

was the Rev. Benjamin J. Lowe, who was born near Princeton, the son of a well-to-do farmer and the grandson of a Holland emigrant of the same name. Benjamin Lowe was educated at Princeton, and was ordained a Presbyterian clergyman, after which he preached in New Jersey and Ohio. On retiring, he migrated to California, and eventually died in San Francisco. Her mother was Mary (Linn) Lowe, whose birthplace was Harmony Vale, in Sussex county, N. J., and who was educated at the Moravian Seminary at Bethlehem, Penn., made famous through one of the early poems of Longfellow. Mary Linn's father, John Linn, was born in New Jersey. He became first an attorney and then a Judge of Sussex county, and was finally elected and re-elected to Congress, dying at Washington during his second term. A fitting monument has been erected to him in the Congressional Burial Ground. Mrs. Lowe died in Ohio, the mother of seven children, only one of whom, the fourth eldest, is now living. This daughter, Mary, was educated at Grandeville Seminary, Ohio, and in that town married Charles Robinson, a native of the same state. He was a merchant, and died in the same town in which he had his business. After his death, in 1865, Mrs. Robinson came West to San Francisco, having here a sister, Mrs. M. C. Hillyer; and six weeks after her arrival she was married to John H. Pond; and in time she became the mother of a second son, Harry Fry Pond—the popular undersheriff of San Luis Obispo County. She already had one child, Louis, by Mr. Robinson, and he resides in San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. Pond removed to Ventura, bought some land and farmed there, but about nine years later transferred their residence to San Luis Obispo County, locating at Shandon, where they pre-empted a hundred sixty acres. A year later they took up the homestead, now the residence of Mrs. Pond. It consisted of one hundred sixty acres about ten miles east of Creston, on Indian Creek, in the Highland district, and there they went in still more extensively for farming and stock raising. They bought the adjoining property until they owned a ranch of nine hundred sixty acres, a flourishing center of grain- and stock-raising. Lately some six hundred forty-five acres of this property has been sold.

Amid his books and papers, and enjoying the companionship of his devoted wife, Mr. Pond spent his last days contented and happy, maintaining to the end a live interest in public affairs. He served as school trustee, and helped to build the schoolhouse in his district. He died on October 4, 1916, leaving behind him an enviable reputation as a private citizen.

Having rented much of her property, Mrs. Pond continues to reside on the home place since her lamented husband's death, devoting her spare time to works of charity, and participating in the activities of the Presbyterian Church. As a Democrat, she maintains a live interest in politics. No one who meets and converses with this charming lady will fail to recognize in her a bond between the present age and a period in which many of the gentler graces were particularly cultivated.

**CAPTAIN MARCUS HARLOE.**—A race of shipbuilders for generations has been the record of the Harloe family, and that San Luis Obispo County should profit by the long residence within her borders of Captain Marcus Harloe augurs well for the possibilities that held him here when he had traveled much and had met so many opportunities in his earlier life. Captain Harloe was of English and Scotch ancestry, but was born in Ireland

near Dublin, March 17, 1833, a son of Matthew Harloe, for many years a British revenue officer. Matthew Harloe married a daughter of William H. Taylor, a Scotch shipmaster of Campbellstown, Argyleshire, whose ship, on one occasion, was seized by some French pirates; when he was put to torture to make him disclose the whereabouts of the ship's treasure, it was discovered that he was a Mason, and he was at once released and restored to his ship.

In 1847 Captain Marcus Harloe came to the United States, and in 1848 shipped on the "New World" for Liverpool. In 1850 he rounded Cape Horn on the "Wisconsin," a sailing vessel from New York bound for San Francisco; and from the latter point he shipped on another vessel. In 1851 he was first mate on the river schooner "Eagle," running between Sacramento and San Francisco, and in 1852 was first officer of the brig "Walcott." Having attained his majority, in 1854, Mr. Harloe became master of the schooner "Louise," in the coasting trade, owning a quarter interest in the vessel, which he sold in 1856. He then became half owner in the schooner "Black Prince," which he built, and of which he remained master until the fall of 1859.

On December 20, 1859, Captain Harloe went east and bought the schooner "Wild Pigeon," in Providence, R. I., chartered a cargo from New York and sailed for San Francisco, March 20, 1860, via the straits of Magellan. In the cargo was the material for the steamer "Salinas," the first vessel constructed by the Pacific Coast Steamship Company. After discharging the cargo at the foot of Third street in San Francisco, Captain Harloe put the vessel in the Mexican trade. When the Civil War broke out, he sold the "Wild Pigeon" and took charge of the tugboats "Merrimac" and "Monitor" in San Francisco bay. He was elected harbor master of San Francisco in 1865, and served efficiently two years and nine months, when he resumed tugboating.

In 1867 Captain Harloe became identified with Santa Barbara county, when he came to settle up the affairs of the estate of his father-in-law, Isaac J. Sparks, whose daughter Flora married Mr. Harloe, Aug. 12, 1866. In 1864 he shipped as master of the steam schooner "Gussie," plying between Carpinteria and San Francisco; later, for three years, from 1870, he was master of the "Commander" of the Holladay and Burnham line, and master of the Pacific Mail line from San Diego to Seattle. He was next connected with the Pacific Coast Steamship Co., as master of the "Ventura" and the "Constantine." In 1880, Gov. George Perkins appointed Captain Harloe chief wharfinger at San Francisco, and he filled the position for three years, after which for some time, until he retired from service, he commanded the steamer "Santa Maria," running along the coast and to the Sandwich Islands.

In 1875, Captain Marcus Harloe brought his family to San Luis Obispo County and settled them on the Huasna rancho, on a tract that comprised nine thousand acres of land which he utilized for stock and general farming purposes. Since that time the Harloe family has been identified with this county. This rancho was a part of a Mexican grant secured by Isaac J. Sparks and bequeathed to his daughter, Mrs. Harloe. Mrs. Harloe's mother was Mary (Ayres) Sparks. Of the union of Captain and Mrs. Harloe eight children were born: Fannie E., deceased; Rosa S., who died, aged five; Marcus S.; Archie M.; William George; John D., an attorney in San Francisco;

and Flora L., the wife of Fred Wood.



Active in the councils of the Republican party, Captain Harloe was elected to the State Legislature from his district in 1889; and during his term he was a member of the committee on commerce and navigation. He served as supervisor of San Luis Obispo County for two years. During the exciting campaigns he did excellent work for his party, many times turning defeat into victory when the contests were close. He was a friend of education and one of his hobbies was the establishment of the union high school; and he aided greatly in securing the passage of a bill to render this plan possible. He served as a school trustee for many years.

It was a matter of pride with Captain Harloe that he held the highest license ever granted any master of vessels by the United States government. This permitted him to act as inspector or commander of ships in any ocean and was added proof of his ability in the management of ships. He was a Mason and was a charter member of the oldest lodge in San Francisco but was later transferred to Arroyo Grande Lodge No. 277, F. & A. M. He was also a member of San Luis Obispo Chapter No. 62, R. A. M., and San Luis Obispo Commandery No. 27, K. T.

After landing in California Captain Harloe became a thorough advocate of western progress and maintained close connection with maritime and civic matters until his death, June 28, 1908, at which time the nation and state, as well as the county of San Luis Obispo, lost one of their most influential citizens.

**DONALD C. McMILLAN.**—Few, if any persons familiar with the recent history of San Luis Obispo and the inner workings of this developing town, will question the enviable position attained there by Donald C. McMillan, a native of Delhousie, Restigouche county, New Brunswick, where he was born on June 29, 1849, the son of James McMillan, who hailed from Arran, Scotland. Mr. McMillan's grandfather Donald brought the family from Scotland to Restigouche county, where he became a farmer on the shores of Baie de Chaleurs. James McMillan also had a farm there and eventually came to California, largely as the guest of his son Donald, dying here some twenty years ago in McMillan's Cañon. The mother, also a native of Arran, was Helen Cook before her marriage, and her father was John Cook, who had made his way to the same country in New Brunswick. The mother is still living, with her two daughters, in San Luis Obispo, having celebrated her ninetieth birthday on the 27th of October, 1916.

Nine children were born to James McMillan and his wife. Arnold died in infancy; James owns a farm in McMillan's Cañon, and resides in San Luis Obispo; John is in Wisconsin; Alexander is a farmer in McMillan's Cañon near Shandon; Peter owns a farm near the same place, and resides in San Luis Obispo; while Donald and his sisters Helen, Barbara and Catherine all reside in the old Mission town. Donald was brought up on a farm on the Baie de Chaleurs at Delhousie, enjoyed such training as the public school of that section afforded, and as a lad learned the business of a merchant.

In 1872 he came for a while to San Francisco, and the same fall, for a few months, to Cayucos, from which place he went to Carson City, Nev., where he contracted to get out logs and timbers for the mines. Continuing in this enterprise for two years, he returned to Cayucos, and in 1875 started a general merchandise store there, the firm being known as Dunn, McMillan & Co. In less than a year he bought out Dunn, and continued the busi-



ness himself, finally selling a half interest to Grant, Lull & Co. at Cambria, after which he managed the Cayucos store, as a half-partner, for five years. Meeting with an accident, and being badly injured, he sold out and went to Washington Territory, where he spent the winter. In the spring he returned to Cayucos again and once more started, this time on his own account, in the general merchandise business. He built a store building and residence, in which he lived and did business until a year after the railroad came to Paso Robles.

In 1887 he sold his store; and having previously purchased from the Atlantic & Pacific Railroad Co. 640 acres of land located in a cañon (afterward named McMillan's Cañon by Colonel Bingham, who surveyed the land there), he added improvements, and made it an exceedingly promising investment, only to find that the company could not deliver a clear title, and that the land must go back to the Government. Then he located a pre-emption and timber claim of 320 acres; and settling temporarily on it, made improvements there, raising grain and cattle and also engaging in dairying. In those days, the milk was placed in pans and skimmed by hand, and yet he made good butter and plenty of it, which he shipped to San Francisco, finding there a ready market. He also bought 160 acres of land adjoining, and now he has 480 acres, all tillable, and in a body. Grain raising occupied him for years, and he was one of the first to gather his crops with a combined harvester after it had come into use.

About 1894 he met with a second accident, and finding himself unable to do heavy farm work, he became a commercial traveler, representing E. J. Bowen & Company, the big seed-house in San Francisco, in whose service he traveled for ten years through most of the Southern States from Georgia westward, his address and conversational ability easily ingratiating him with strangers, and making him invaluable to his firm.

In the fall of 1904, on account of Mrs. McMillan's health, he rented his ranch and moved to San Luis Obispo, where he built a comfortable residence; still occupied by them. From here he looks after his varied interests. Soon after settling in San Luis Obispo he became interested, with sixty to seventy other representative citizens from different parts of the county, in the Daily Telegram Company, publishers of the Daily Telegram, and was induced to give his time for three years to the financial management of the paper. He served as president of the company ten years, or until they sold out. The Telegram was started to advance all good causes, in particular that of good government and temperance; and it stood for progress and purity. In 1914 Mr. McMillan again took charge of his farm, and he is still operating and superintending it, ready at any time to get into harness if it is necessary. He raises two crops and puts in about 200 acres of wheat every year.

While in Cambria Mr. McMillan was married to Miss Elizabeth Cook, who was born in New Brunswick, a daughter of the late Alexander Cook, and a sister of Alexander Sterling Cook, who is also represented in this work. A daughter Helen came to brighten their lives; but at the age of twenty-three years, while attending the San Jose State Normal School, she became ill and died. After her untimely death, the bereaved parents adopted an orphan girl—Miss Ruth Fonner, now a student at the San Luis Obispo High School—upon whom they are showering their affections.





*H. C. Sutton.*

For years Mr. McMillan was a school trustee, first in the Caycees and then in the Shandon district; and in both communities he helped to organize the Presbyterian Church, long serving as Sunday school superintendent, and now rendering good service as an elder in the Presbyterian Church at San Luis Obispo. An active Republican in matters of national politics, Mr. McMillan has ever proven a public-spirited citizen, while in matters of business his word, always as good as his bond, has been a valuable contribution to forwarding the best interests of the ambitious town.

**HERBERT CHARLES SUTTON.**—The town of Paso Robles, with its various lines of activity, has drawn within its hospitable and ambitious limits many men whose business capacity and fine traits of citizenship would be a credit to any community in the country. Foremost among these is Herbert Charles Sutton, dairyman, auctioneer, grain buyer, liveryman and promoter of the city's most substantial interests. A native of New Zealand, he was born in Thornberry, March 6, 1882, a son of Thomas Sutton, who came from south Lincolnshire, England, and removed to New Zealand at the time of the first gold excitement. He landed at Auckland from a sailing vessel in 1859, followed mining for a time and then turned his attention to farming and stock-raising. Mr. Sutton was an importer of fine horses and cattle from England and Scotland, and in the early days took many prizes and medals. He died when his son, Herbert C., was only six months old. His wife, Jessie Reed, was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, a direct descendant of Rob Roy. Her grandfather was William Abercrombie. Mr. Reed started with his family to New Zealand, but before he reached there, his destination being Auckland, he died in 1849, a few days before landing. Mrs. Sutton was reared in that country and lived there until her death in 1893, when her son was but eleven years old. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Sutton seven children were born, five of whom are now living. Of these, only Herbert C. and Miss Alice Catherine Sutton, of Paso Robles, are residents of California.

Herbert C. Sutton was the youngest member of the family and was reared in New Zealand, attended the public schools of that place, and after the death of his mother made his home with his sister Alice. Then he went to live with an uncle, George Sutton, a farmer. When he was seventeen, with two brothers he purchased a farm of three hundred acres in Winton district, and began raising cattle and sheep. Two years later, after a successful business, they sold out and returned to the home farm, which they ran until 1908, selling out after Herbert C. had decided to come to California.

In May, 1908, Mr. Sutton landed in San Francisco and a few weeks later came to Paso Robles and purchased four hundred eighty acres in the Adelaïda district, where he raised grain and stock until 1910, when he sold out and bought the Paso Robles Livery Stable, which he conducted in connection with the auctioneering business. He later bought out the other livery stables and managed a big force of men, and for three years was very successful; then he traded his livery business for a fine orange grove in Riverside county, and went there to live and further improve his property. Eighteen months later he sold his grove at a good profit, and returned to Paso Robles and opened a livery stable. He ran this until July, 1915, when he sold out and started in the dairy business. While in the livery business, he began buying grain and has since carried on that line of industry. He represents

McCurran & Co. and the Sinsheimer Co., and for them in 1916 he bought a hundred thousand sacks of grain. In February of 1916 he opened Sutton's Dairy, two miles south of the city on the state highway, on the old Hogg ranch, and there he has a fine herd of seventy milch cows of the Durham and Holstein breeds. For delivery, he uses a Ford truck. He does a wholesale and retail business, covering his territory morning and evening. His milk is handled in the most sanitary and up-to-date manner, and always passes the highest test.

In Paso Robles occurred the marriage of Herbert C. Sutton and Miss Bessie Moncks, a native of Salem, Mass. They have two children, a son, Ernest Walter, and a daughter, Elizabeth Alice. Mr. Sutton is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and in 1916 was vice-president of the Upper Salinas Valley Fair Association. He was made a Mason in Paso Robles Lodge No. 286, F. & A. M., and is Senior Warden of the lodge. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Sutton belongs to the Christian Church. In politics he is a Republican.

**MARY VIGNETTE LEHNER.**—Since January 1, 1907, the office of superintendent of schools of Santa Barbara county has been filled most satisfactorily by Miss Mary Vignette Lehner, who was selected solely on her merits as a teacher with progressive ideas. She was not a candidate for the office, nor did she know that her name had been mentioned at the county convention held by the Democratic committeemen until notified of her selection by some of the members, and she accepted only with the understanding that she need not "do politics"—further proof of her fitness for the position. During her incumbency the office has been most economically conducted; great advancement has been made by all the schools in the county, all of which have been placed on a strictly business basis and raised to a higher standard of efficiency. She works hand in hand with the trustees and teachers, and is greatly admired by the pupils of all ages. On assuming the duties of the position, Miss Lehner at once began systematizing the detail work of the office. She established rules, and insisted on their enforcement. The efficiency of her administration is evidenced by her re-election for a third term.

Mary V. Lehner was born in Galena, Ill., a daughter of Samuel and Margaretha (Burke) Lehner, of German-Swiss descent. Her education was received in the public schools of Santa Barbara, where she graduated from the high school in 1888. Her public schooling was supplemented by three university extension courses under Prof. Morse Stephens of the University of California, and summer school work there from time to time. She taught her first school in the Ballard district in 1889, where she remained four years. This was followed by one year as principal of the Goleta school, after which she taught in the grammar schools of Santa Barbara, and then as teacher of history in the sixth and seventh grades, and of Batavia work in the third and fourth grades one year. She taught two years in the eighth grade, after which she was principal of the Webster and Garfield schools of that city. She served as supervisor of drawing in all the grades of the city schools for six months, until her election to her present office, when she carried the county by a good majority over her opponent. She is a member of the Woman's Club in Santa Barbara and the Time-to-Time Club of Los Angeles. She belongs to the Church of Christ, Scientist. In politics Miss Lehner is a Democrat, although in her school work she recognizes no party line.

**MRS. LELIA PENWELL STILL.**—Mrs. Lelia Penwell Still, of Annette, is a cultured and eminently practical woman. She was born at Placer-ville, Eldorado county. Her father was Samuel A. Penwell, who was born in Ohio in 1832. He graduated from an Ohio college and started, at the age of eighteen, in 1850, to cross the plains to California. Arriving on the Coast, he mined for a short time, and then took up teaching. While thus employed he married Miss Lelia Lane, a native of Illinois, who was also a teacher, and who had come to California with her friends, when nineteen years of age, crossing the plains in 1866. After his marriage, Mr. Penwell taught school and also served as county superintendent of schools in Eldorado county. He then came to Oakland and to Berkeley; and as secretary of the Berkeley Land Improvement Co. he laid out West Berkeley, now a part of the university city. Still later, he served as justice of the peace; but his health failing him, he came to live with Mrs. Still, at whose home he died, in 1914, in his eighty-second year. Her mother died at Oakland, in 1872, in her twenty-ninth year. Of their four children, three grew to maturity: Lelia E. (Penwell) Still; Mrs. Grace Burdick, of Ohio; and Mrs. Mary Rosebrugh, of New York.

As a child Mrs. Still was educated in the Berkeley public schools, and after graduating from the high school of that city, she taught school at La Panza in 1887, and then at Annette. On August 26, 1896, she was married at Berkeley to E. M. Still, a native of Blue River, Neb., who was born in May, 1863, while his parents were crossing the plains. He was a son of Dr. Thomas A. Still, of La Panza, and a brother of A. A. Still, of Annette. E. M. Still was associated with his brothers, A. A. and William Still, as a pioneer sheepman of Annette, until 1895, when they dissolved partnership. The low price of sheep in the year 1893 caused such a loss that it practically deprived them of their holdings. Thereupon Mr. Still returned to the old homestead at Annette, and established there his headquarters, farming until ill health forced him to give up. In October, 1915, he died.

For the last twelve years Mrs. Still has operated the ranch, raising grain and stock, on a farm comprising nineteen hundred acres, well adapted for wheat and barley. She raises Durham and Holstein cattle, her brand being a connected L-P. She leases out some of her land, and the tenant sows about three hundred fifty acres a year to grain, while she puts in about four hundred acres. In the fall of 1916, she was fortunate in getting \$2.67½ per cental for her wheat, that being then the highest price known here since the Civil War. Mrs. Still attributes no small degree of her success to the able assistance of her ranch manager, Percy J. Catling, who is a close observer of agricultural conditions. Mr. Catling is a native of England, but has been a resident of the vicinity of Annette since 1894. The ranch is watered by springs affording an ample supply for the stock in different fields; and from a spring, water is piped to the house and barns.

Three children are the joy and the promise of Mrs. Still's life: Grace, who is attending the San Luis Obispo Polytechnic; Ernest, who is in the Syracuse, N. Y., high school, majoring in chemistry; and Ellen, who is in the first year of the high school at home. A trustee of the Annette school district, Mrs. Still has been clerk of the board for over six years. In politics, she is a Republican. Mrs. Still is a member of the Episcopal Church.

**HON. JONATHAN VINTON WEBSTER.**—It is an old saying that a good man never dies, and there is another sentiment, equally interesting and true, that no energy or power in the universe is ever lost. Both aphorisms are admirably illustrated in the life of Jonathan Vinton Webster, the far-seeing citizen, so long one of the most prominent men in his county and a thinker now recognized as having been far ahead of his times. A native of Coffee county, Tennessee, where he was born in July, 1830, Jonathan was the grandson of Jonathan Webster, a colonel in the War of 1812, who was later a member of the state legislature. The father was Joel H. Webster, a Tennessee educator, and the mother was Lucretia Smith, the daughter of a blacksmith of Coffee county. While Jonathan was yet a child his father died. The lad was reared on a farm and educated at the local public schools. When a young man he came to Missouri, and then to Arkansas, and from that state, in 1853, with nineteen other young men, he set out for California. There were ox teams and wagons to haul the provisions, but there was no motor-power to carry the passengers, and so the young fellows walked all the way.

Arriving in California, young Webster mined for a while, after which he bought some redwood land near Oakland and made shingles and shakes, and in that way got his start. He attended college at Alameda, paying his way; and when he had completed his education, he became editor of the *California Patron*, published in San Francisco, and in its day the leading farm journal of the state. He also took a part in the directorship of the Grange Bank at Oakland, and in addition handled more or less real estate. He purchased a farm at Fruitvale, where he built a residence, set out a cherry orchard, and raised other fruits and stock.

His health becoming poor, however, he sought a change of climate, and this led him to come to San Luis Obispo County, where, with Messrs. Phillips, Cressy, Ambrose and Adams, he bought the Huer-Huero ranch, which was soon subdivided to suit the wants of incoming settlers. Mr. Webster kept his home ranch, improved it and farmed there, selling his lands and interests in Alameda.

In 1882, he moved to Creston from Oakland, where he continued farming and stock-raising, and built a large, beautiful residence in the style of Southern architecture, with a wide porch running around it. For a while he also engaged in the nursery business here. What particularly interested him, however, was all that pertained to the building up of the locality around him, to attain which he was willing to help along all worthy movements. He was an organizer, for example, of the Citizens Bank of Paso Robles, and became one of its directors, and at one time he was president of the State Grange. He was a prominent Populist, and rose to such distinction in that party's ranks that he was their candidate for governor when James Budd was elected. He was supervisor of the county for two terms, and in the administration of that office evinced clear-sighted and advanced views. These views pertained to politics, sociological conditions, and even to farming; and he was wide-awake to anything that would really improve the condition of the people. This was specifically illustrated a few years ago when he advocated state highways, and put forth the contention that California never would develop as it should until it had great thoroughfares stretching from north to south and through the interior valleys. His most extreme step, perhaps, was in the advocacy of state ownership of public utilities, and not merely state ownership, but municipal as well.

Mr. Webster was a many-sided man—a fact evidenced by his ability as a writer. He penned one or two dramas, and wrote a couple of true California stories, as well as poems. One of these tales was called "The Hermit's Home," but nearly the whole edition of this, as well as others of his writings, was destroyed in the great San Francisco fire. He even had two books under way when he died, the one being entitled "The King's Last Consort," and the other, "The Message from Stellar World." At one time he served in the State Senate from Alameda county, and in 1879 he was a member of the state constitutional convention.

Jonathan Webster was twice married. His first wife was Sarah A. Howard, by whom he had four children, three of whom are living: W. H. Webster, of Hawthorne, Nev.; E. C. Webster, of Oakland; and Nellie, now Mrs. Clark, of Los Angeles, to each of whom Mr. Webster gave the best educational advantages possible. His second marriage occurred in San Luis Obispo in 1908, when he was joined to Mrs. Rosa E. (Scott) Keyser, a native of Wilson county, Kansas, and a daughter of Johnston Scott of Iowa. Her grandfather was a Dr. Scott, of Scotland, who was a graduate in medicine from that country and became a practicing physician in Iowa, after which he returned to Scotland, where he died. Her father, naturally a thorough mechanic, became a machinist and an engineer, as well as a farmer, and was one of the few early ranchmen, in Wilson county, who had a blacksmith shop and machine shop. He also ran one of the first threshing machines in Kansas. In 1883 he came with his family to California, stopped for a time in Santa Cruz county and then moved to San Luis Obispo County and located at Creston in 1885, where he worked as machinist and engineer. Her mother was Elizabeth Brown, a native of Missouri and a granddaughter of a pioneer of that state who traced his ancestry back to Plymouth Rock and the landing of the Pilgrims. She died when Mrs. Webster was twelve years old. In a family of nine children, eight of whom are still living, Mrs. Webster was the fifth in order of birth, and with most of the others she was educated in the public schools in Kansas; at Seattle, Wash.; and at San Jose, California.

By her first marriage with A. Keyser, Mrs. Webster became the mother of three children, Augustus Keyser, who assists her with the ranch and is a clever mechanic; Elza, a blacksmith at Chino; and Oscar, who died at the age of seventeen. By her marriage with Mr. Webster she was blessed with one child, Jonathan Vinton Webster, Jr.

In October, 1912, after a life of singular usefulness, Mr. Webster was stricken with paralysis, although he retained his mental faculties and his speech and was able to walk again. The second affliction seized him on April 29, 1913; and on May 2, he passed away. In later years Mr. Webster became an active member of the Progressive Republican party. He was a charter member of Brooklyn Lodge, F. & A. M. of Oakland, served the lodge as its second Master and became prominent in Masonic circles of the state; and he was therefore buried with all Masonic honors, being laid beside his mother in Mountain View Cemetery. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Webster resides on the home ranch, and she never tires of singing the praises of the man whom state and county alike have placed among their great men. She, too, is a Republican and strives to do her public duty as efficiently



**AUGUSTE DUBOST.**—Both Robinson Crusoe and the Napoleons of finance might well be excused if, on meeting Auguste Dubost, and learning the very interesting story of his life, they had felt a sudden call to look to their laurels: for the well-known resident of Adelaida, when thrown upon his own resources, showed no little ingenuity in adjusting himself to fate, and when finally given a chance to invest his native tact, brain and muscle, produced for himself a competence which would be a credit to almost any man. Born in Cherbourg, Normandy, France, on August 4, 1848, Auguste Dubost was the son of Jean Dubost, a contractor and builder, who later took to farming and continued to till the soil until his death. His mother was Annie (Étasse) Dubost, a native of the same town, in which she also died. Two children, a boy and a girl, were born to this worthy couple, but Auguste is the only one of the family now living. He was reared in his native place, attended school there, and learned the trade of a wheelwright; and when the Franco-Prussian War commenced, he joined the Army of the Loire, and served as a corporal under General Chanzy, receiving the Legion of Honor medal as a reward for distinguished service in battle. He was wounded in the right hand through the bursting of a shell.

In 1872, young Dubost emigrated to the United States, locating at St. Louis, where he worked at his trade, afterwards establishing himself in a blacksmith's shop at Kahoka. Four years later he took a trip to the Black Hills, but in a short time he went to Cheyenne. The same year he reached San Francisco, and a few months later took passage on a sailing vessel for the Sandwich Islands. There, for five years, he labored as a smith, but at the beginning of the eighties returned to France by way of San Francisco and New York.

On July 12, 1880, Mr. Dubost was married in the old town of Cherbourg to Miss Pauline Duquesne, who was born near his birthplace, the daughter of Louis and Jane (Rouxel) Duquesne. They were farmers, and the parents of six children, among whom she was the youngest and is now the only one in America.

Six months after their marriage, Mr. Dubost and his bride sailed for Honolulu, where he once more hung up his sign as a blacksmith. In 1882 however, he came back to California, and almost immediately located at Adelaida, where he began farming, having bought out a claimant and pre-empted a hundred sixty acres in the heart of the district. He paid six hundred dollars for the right of possession, and then purchased a colt; and by these two transactions he almost exhausted his means. He put up a blacksmith's shop, however, the first of its kind in Adelaida, and was busy from the start; but inasmuch as people around him had no money and were unable to pay for his work, he often received nothing for all the labor, and is still waiting, in some instances, to be paid. In one case, he received a colt in liquidation of his claim. Under these conditions, he decided to quit the forge,

Dubost had now two colts but no harness, and to help himself under this difficulty he bought a raw hide, which had been hanging up for five or six years, and set to work to make the gear. There was some difference between the working of metal and the manipulation of leather, but he persisted in the experiment and in time had an outfit, substantial and practical, and Dubost then went to Cayucos, and there called

upon W. Watson, who kept the local store; but when he asked him for credit to the extent of two sacks of flour, the latter's reply was anything but inspiring. "I have flour enough, and to sell," said Watson, "but not exactly at that price." So Mr. Dubost returned home without the flour, a sadder and a wiser man. He hated to meet his waiting wife, but when he did so he pluckily told her that he had no intention to allow her to starve; he would get together the few turkeys and chickens he had bought with the ranch, and while she was disposing of the same to neighbors, he would go back to the Islands where he had left a whole lot of friends and a position was awaiting him.

But something better was reserved for so doughty a man, and the next day he had an experience that turned the tide of his depressing affairs. While Auguste was tinkering at the blacksmith shop, a man named Ed Smith passed that way; and looking in, he asked the young Frenchman how he liked the country. "To the Devil with it!" said Dubost, and added a few words of indignant explanation. Ed replied that the country was good enough, and that just such fellows as Auguste should remain in it, concluding his statement with the encouragement that he was going to Cayucos next day and would see to it that the storekeeper Watson afforded the would-be rancher all the credit that he needed. Dubost was scarcely in the mood to entertain the prospect of relief, but his more sensible wife, who had been reared on a farm in sunny France, advised him to avail himself of Ed's backing, saying that she would like to try the experiment for a year at least. The industrious couple, as a result, set to work day and night, and while by no means rich at the end of the first year, they did have something definite to show for their effort and sacrifice. The real reward and inner satisfaction came within less than a decade; for in 1901 Dubost bought out the very store in Cayucos where, to his embarrassment and pain, he had once been refused a few shillings of credit, paying for the stock and building no less than sixteen thousand five hundred dollars.

In 1889, Auguste Dubost started the first store at Adelaida, soon bringing the post office within the establishment. He resigned office as postmaster in 1904. Meanwhile he had homesteaded and improved a hundred sixty acres in Cholame valley, which he sold in 1914. In 1897 he bought out the claimant of the old Sunderland mine which had been abandoned. It had been opened up originally about 1872. In the early days a Frenchman owned and operated the mine, and it is stated that he sold the mine for fifteen thousand or twenty thousand dollars and, having a snug fortune, set out for France to enjoy the rest of his days with his old friends. However, on not reaching France, his friends traced him from California to New York City; and there all clue to his whereabouts disappeared, although it was supposed at the time he was accompanied by an acquaintance. On obtaining possession of the quicksilver mine, Mr. Dubost opened it up and with characteristic enterprise he built two retorts, and so handled the paying ore that it showed good returns. He operated the Dubost mine successfully until 1900, when he sold it to the Klau Company for a very neat sum. He next bought a store in Cayucos, which he managed for a year, but in the fall of 1902 he returned to Adelaida and engaged in farming and stock raising, which he has continued ever since. He makes his headquarters at the Bellevue Ranch, about five miles west of Adelaida, amid some four thousand two hundred

acres of well stocked farm land; while he also owns a couple of ranches at Adelaida, embracing six hundred acres devoted to grain and stock, in the management of which he is assisted by his son, Frank. Two other children blessed the union of this deserving couple: Nathalie, who died at the age of twenty-seven, and Alfred, the merchant at Adelaida, who is also postmaster at that place.

In 1903, Mr. and Mrs. Dubost made a trip to France, and a few years later they repeated the delightful experience. In 1911, Mrs. Dubost also returned alone to her native country on a brief trip, on account of business matters connected with the Duquesne estate. While in Honolulu, Mr. Dubost was made a Mason; and he is also a member of the Odd Fellows. A Democrat in politics, he has refused local office. His son, Frank, is school trustee of the Sunderland district.

All in all, Auguste Dubost and his excellent wife have lived and toiled in such a manner as to entitle them to both the respect and the good-will of their neighbors, which is assuredly theirs. The writer of this article had the pleasure of visiting the Dubost home, at Bellevue ranch, and saw where the house and farm buildings nestle beautifully in the foothills of the Santa Lucia mountains, on a ridge sloping gently to the north, giving a picturesque view of the surrounding country of Adelaida which induced the owner to give it the name of Bellevue.

Mr. and Mrs. Dubost are very entertaining and kind-hearted; their place is apparently surrounded with a charm, and fortunate is the individual who has the privilege of enjoying their hospitality.

**CALVIN R. DRUMM.**—An employee of the county of Santa Barbara in the fifth supervisorial district, Calvin R. Drumm, of Orcutt, is engaged in the care of waste oil in the Orcutt field, in the Santa Maria valley. This oil is used for road purposes, and its salvage is a considerable factor in the furtherance of public economy. Calvin R. Drumm was born near Independence, Jackson county, Mo., December 30, 1848, a son of Benjamin H. and Jane M. (Smith) Drumm, both natives of Kentucky, who farmed in Missouri, and later became pioneers of California, crossing the plains with ox teams in 1852, and settling in Sonoma county, where the following nine years were spent in raising grain and stock. In 1861, the father went to Texas, but returned to California, after four years, through Mexico, coming back to Sonoma county, and farming there three years. The next six years were spent in Monterey county; and in 1874 the family became residents of the Santa Maria valley, in Santa Barbara county, where the father died at the age of eighty-four and the mother at eighty-two years.

Calvin R. Drumm followed the movements of his parents from place to place and gave what aid he could from year to year until he struck out for himself. He received but a common school education; but the principles of education and the advantages inherited from his parents, and he took advantage of opportunities that came his way to get a start in life. He has lived in the West from a child of two years of age, has undergone hardships and disappointments, and is today respected by all who know him. He has been engaged in farming and stock-raising for years, and is now employed by the board of supervisors in the Orcutt oil fields in pumping the waste oil into tanks; and this is used for road-making. Over thirteen thousand pounds were thus applied during the year 1915.





Misses H. B. Brinkley

Mr. J. E. Brinkley

Mr. Drumm was married on December 9, 1876, to Miss Mary Norris. Ten children were born to them. Louis S. is with the Orcutt Mercantile Company; Susie B. is the wife of Wyatt Wiley of Fillmore; Grace is now Mrs. Brown of Santa Paula; Evalina is married to Walter Hughes of Fullerton; Albert L. is a teamster in Orcutt; Henry and Eugene are with the Orcutt Mercantile Company; and Ellen, Bennie and Edith reside in Orcutt with their mother.

**MR. AND MRS. MYRON H. BROOKS.** The life which this narrative sketches began in Lebanon, Linn county, Ore., May 30, 1855, and closed in Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County, April 29, 1914. Within these years is a record of much accomplished for the benefit of his fellow men, many improvements introduced of lasting value to his locality, and substantial interests established that left his family in comfortable circumstances at his death. Myron H. Brooks was a westerner by birth and from boyhood was in accord with western methods. His father, Rev. Joshua Brooks, was born in Huron county, O., and from there went to Iowa and later to Texas; from which state, in 1850, he crossed the plains and mountains to Linn county, Ore., remaining there for some years and then coming to California and locating in Sutter county. In 1881, he came to San Luis Obispo County. In 1890 he died near Modesto, aged seventy years. He was a Baptist preacher and was ordained at the Ecclesiastical Council of the Baptist Church at Nicolaus, Sutter county, California, in August, 1867. He married Mary Hackley, who was born in Indiana, a daughter of George Hackley, who moved from Kentucky to Indiana and thence, with ox-teams, to Oregon.

The families on both sides of his house were typical pioneers, and it was but natural that Myron H. Brooks should inherit those traits so familiar to western civilization. He was the oldest of seven children, and received his education in the schools of the pioneer days in Sutter county, whither he was brought by his parents in 1860. He grew up to farm work and helped his father in the raising of grain and stock on the three hundred twenty acres he had leased.

In 1881, his health being poor, M. H. Brooks came to Paso Robles and engaged in the real estate business; he also located a homestead of one hundred sixty acres and pre-empted one hundred sixty acres near Union, while he bought eighty acres adjoining and Mrs. Brooks bought one hundred sixty acres, making a total ownership of five hundred sixty acres of fine land as well as some lots in the Bay cities. He became a factor in the development of the various interests in this section, and was a stockholder and a director in the Farmers' Alliance Business Association. He was a prominent and well-posted Mason and Past Master of Paso Robles Lodge No. 286, F. & A. M., and a member of the Royal Arch Chapter in San Luis Obispo. He also served as inspector of the forty-ninth Masonic district of this jurisdiction. He was a prominent member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. In politics, he was a Democrat, but with no aspirations for office. When a young man he joined the Baptist Church, and always held to that religious belief.

On January 1, 1889, in the United States, the county of San Luis Obispo, the marriage of Myron H. Brooks with Virginia E. Sawyer, born near the Natural Bridge, Rockbridge county, Old Virginia, a daughter of John Sawyer. The latter was also born in Rockbridge county, Virginia, and was a blacksmith there. Later he removed to the Ohio river region, where he continued his

trade negroes at Hartford City, W. Va.; and finally to the oil region of Volcano, where he made the heavy oil well tools and did a large business. He came to San Luis Obispo County, Cal., in 1885, settled on a ranch in the Union district, and ran a blacksmith shop at Estrella. He died on his ranch in 1901. His father, also named John Sawyer, was a blacksmith, and was of Holland-Dutch ancestry. John Sawyer, Jr., married Hannah Fulwider, born in Augusta county, Va., a daughter of John Fulwider, a miller by trade, who made the trip to California in the fifties by way of Cape Horn during the gold excitement. Afterwards he was engaged in stock-raising in Mendocino county, when he disappeared; the only clue found was a hat pierced with bullet holes, left on the Eel river. Mrs. Brooks' mother still lives in Paso Robles, aged eighty-six years. Six of her children grew to maturity: Virginia E., who became Mrs. M. H. Brooks; Mary Alice, Mrs. Hanson W. True; George M., who died in 1911; Isaac, who resides in Paso Robles; Charles E., who died in 1882, aged twenty years; and Kate, of Paso Robles.

Virginia E. Sawyer was reared in West Virginia, attended the public schools and Belpre Academy at Belpre, O., and in 1885 came to Union, this county, where she was married to Mr. Brooks. Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Brooks leases her ranch and makes her home in Paso Robles, where she owns a comfortable residence on Twelfth and Chestnut streets. She has two sons, John Clinton of San Francisco and Charles Elbert, who resides with his mother. Mrs. Brooks is a member of the Congregational Church. She is liberal and kind-hearted, as was also her husband, and is a typical western woman. In politics, she favors the Democratic party.

**WILLIAM B. PRICE.**—A pioneer who reached California only after much privation and personal sacrifice, and one who really had something to do with the very foundation of things here, especially in the early development of San Luis Obispo county, was John M. Price, popularly and affectionately known as Uncle John Price, a sketch of whose life is given elsewhere in this work. He was the father of William B. Price, the enterprising rancher of Paso Robles.

William B. Price, the fourth youngest of the family, was born at Pismo, April 19, 1866. He was brought up on the Pismo ranch and attended the local public school. He learned the stock business under his father's guidance, and for several years remained at home to give a helping hand. When he finally pushed out into the world, it was to go to San Francisco in the employ of the Humane Society.

In 1898, at the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, William volunteered as a member of Company L, of the 14th United States Infantry; and from 1898 to 1899, he was commissioned a corporal, and was soon despatched for service in the Philippine Islands. He participated in the battle with the insurgents at the Manila outposts February 5, 1899, and took part in the assault on the fortress of Santa Cruz, April 10, 1899. He was also in the thick of the fight at Pagsanjan, April 11, 1899, and was in the Battle of Zapote River, June 13, 1899. When he was finally mustered out, August 16, 1899, his discharge testified to "excellent service" and to his being "honest and faithful."

After his return to California, Mr. Price went to the Pismo ranch to recuperate, and there remained for eight months. Then he went to Cananea, Arizona, where he was in the employ of J. B. Brethett, serving as assistant manager of the hotel there. At the end of seven years he resigned, and then

engaged in prospecting in the Yaqui river country. He had a good gold prospect, and also one for silver and copper in the Panama mine, which had already been worked and which he now owns; but the Yaqui Indians were so hostile that he was compelled to abandon everything there.

He then went to Douglas, Ariz., where he worked for the smelter company, and while there married Mrs. Mary (Clark) Oaks, who was born in Corralville, Johnson county, Ia. By her first marriage Mrs. Oaks had had one child, John C., who is now a junior at the University of California. Proceeding to San Diego, Mr. Price was for three years in the employ of Carl Leonardt, the contractor, at the end of which time he resigned and came home to take charge of his mother's ranch. This responsibility he fulfilled until her death in the fall of 1912.

In January, 1913, Mr. Price removed to Paso Robles, where he engaged in the raising of alfalfa and stock on seventeen and a half acres, along the Salinas river, on Riverside avenue, within the city limits. He sunk a well four hundred feet deep, and soon had a wide area of nicely irrigated alfalfa, and there he may be found today in the center of an agricultural equipment modern and first-class in every respect, a genial host and a patriotic citizen, with many things to be proud of, yet enjoying nothing more than the memory of his father's service as a pioneer.

**CON DONOVAN.**—Cornelius Donovan, more familiarly known as Con Donovan, is an extensive landowner and enterprising capitalist who, because he was never afraid of hard work and was always ready to adopt the most progressive methods, and thus keep fully abreast of the times, is today enjoying both leisure and comfort as a retired farmer. He is a native of county Cork, Ireland, where he was born nearly seventy years ago, a member of a longlived family. His father, Daniel Donovan, was a farmer in the same county, who lived to be past eighty; while his grandfather, Con Donovan, also a farmer of that district, attained an equal age. His mother, too, formerly Miss Ellen McCarty, reached more than her ninetieth year.

The first child among eight in the order of birth, Con Donovan grew up on his father's farm and remained with the old folks until he was twenty-six. Emigrating to America, in 1875, he came direct to California, and spent a summer harvesting near Salinas. In the fall he removed to the Santa Maria valley, where a cousin, Jerry Donovan (the story of whose life is given elsewhere in these pages), was renting land and dairying. Con Donovan followed his example in leasing acreage, and so successful has he been, by hard work and frugality, that he now owns a ranch of six hundred acres on the county road between Santa Maria and Guadalupe. In the beginning, Mr. Donovan raised wheat and barley, and later became quite as extensive a raiser of hogs. Before the days of the railroad, he hauled all grain and stock to town and in wagons drawn by six horses. While raising hogs, he usually had seven hundred head or more, the care of which was a small undertaking in addition to his regular farming. During hard times, he was glad to sell good hogs as low as two cents a pound and fresh eggs at from eight to ten cents per dozen. In time, he acquired another ranch, on a hundred sixty acres, located this side of Garey.

In 1897, Con Donovan was married to Miss Katie Hourihan, a native of County Cork, by whom he has had three children: Daniel, a student at Santa Clara College; Eugene, who is attending the Santa Maria high school;



With his wife and family he resides in a handsome bungalow, which he built in 1912. Besides this residence, he owns two other houses, which he is accustomed to rent out. Devoted to the Catholic faith, Mrs. Donovan takes an especially active part in church affairs, and is a member of the Altar Society. As a citizen, Mr. Donovan is alive to all civic duties and problems, and while leaning towards Democratic standards, he always votes according to reason and for the "best man."

**WILLIAM AND WILLIAM J. LEFFINGWELL.**—This is a country where the men in business affairs are the true type of vigorous, healthy manhood, many of them being the descendants of the pioneers who blazed the trails over mountain, desert and plain to this state and here laid the foundation of our present prosperity. No more worthy representative of these pioneers is to be found in San Luis Obispo County than W. J. Leffingwell of Cambria, where he was born, October 2, 1873, a son of William Leffingwell, a forty-niner, who crossed the plains with ox teams to California, via Salt Lake and the Sink of the Humboldt. The father was one of a family of three sons and four daughters, who, with their father (also named William) and mother, took the long and hazardous journey from their eastern home. William Leffingwell, the grandfather of W. J. Leffingwell, went to the mines for a short time, and then moved to Sonoma county and began lumbering with his sons, Adam and William. They built a sawmill and had the first circular saw ever brought into the state. They continued the business there until they located in San Luis Obispo County in 1859, settling on land that became known as the old Leffingwell place, two miles north of Cambria. The land purchased was covered with timber, and here they put up a sawmill, ran it by steam power, logged the timber and manufactured it into lumber. This was the first sawmill in this county and it was operated several years. Many of the early houses, as well as other buildings in this section of the county, were constructed from lumber turned out from this mill. They also built a flour mill with a run of burrs and made flour from the wheat brought to them from various parts of the county. This was the first flour mill in this part of the county, and it was operated until it was completely demolished by an explosion of the boiler. Only the two burr-stones were left to mark the site of the mill. Mr. Leffingwell and his sons cleared the land of timber, and began farming. They also built the Leffingwell wharf, about half-way between Santa Rosa creek and San Simeon creek, where they owned a large tract of land.

Grandfather William Leffingwell died on the old home ranch; Adam was accidentally killed while head sawyer at the mill, and William, the father of William J., continued to farm the old ranch until he retired to his residence in Cambria, where he died, October 11, 1913, aged seventy-one years. He was married near Cambria to Miss May Woods, a native of Waldo, Ore., a daughter of James and Anna (Jones) Woods, of Mercer county, Penn. They crossed the plains to Oregon in 1849, and later located in California, near Visalia, where they engaged in cattle raising. In the spring of 1860, Mr. Woods moved with his family to the coast and settled near Cambria, bought a ranch on Santa Rosa creek, farmed, dairied and raised stock until his death. They had three sons and five daughters, all of whom, except one son, are living. Mrs. Leffingwell is the oldest, and has been a resident of Cambria since she was twelve years old. She attended the first

school they had in this section, kept in an old log house on Santa Rosa creek. She had two children, Anna, Mrs. Bergagnin, of Cambria, and William James, of this review.

W. J. Leffingwell attended the school on San Simeon creek, lived at home and helped his father until he was twenty one, when he took charge of the old place comprising six hundred acres, and for a time ran a dairy and raised stock. He later sold three hundred twenty acres at a good price, retaining two hundred eighty acres. Since the death of his father, he has carried on the stock business with more than ordinary success. In 1916 he was appointed road master of his district, and he is discharging the duties of the office with efficiency. He is a member and past president of Cambria Parlor, N. S. G. W., and is highly esteemed for his many good qualities and for his sterling traits of character.

**OLE NELSON.**—A valued resident of Santa Maria valley since 1876, Ole Nelson is one of the few pioneers who have been spared to witness the growth of the country and to recount the experiences of the early days, when game abounded in this section and cattle roamed at will, and when few trees could be seen except on the sides of the mountains on either side of the valley. He remembers when Central City, as the thriving town of Santa Maria was first known, was but a settlement at the four corners where Main and Broadway intersect, with a few straggling houses scattered here and there. He is the owner of three hundred twenty-six acres, which he bought from Dana Brothers in the fall of 1885. The ranch is located three miles north of Santa Maria, where Nipomo creek flows into the Santa Maria river. A native of Denmark, Mr. Nelson was born on February 12, 1854, in the northern part of Jutland, a son of James and Elsie Nelson. The father died when Ole was six months old, leaving his wife with three children, two sons and a daughter. Mrs. Nelson was married a second time, Andrew Jensen becoming her husband; and one child was born to them. She died in Denmark at the age of seventy-four.

Ole Nelson was educated in the public schools, and was confirmed in the Lutheran Church when he was fourteen. He then began to work out for wages, but the pay was very small. He had read about America, and had talked with some of his countrymen who had returned from this country; and learning that better opportunities were offered for young men of energy than his own country afforded, he decided that he would seek them for himself. He made arrangements for money to pay his expenses, bade good-bye to his home and friends, and sailed from Copenhagen, March 17, 1873, on the old Allan line, landing at Castle Garden in April. The first two years in this country were rather lonesome ones for the young man from Denmark. He knew nothing of the customs of the country, nor could he speak our language; but he had to make a living and welcomed any honest work that came his way. He worked on a farm in Connecticut the first summer, and then spent two years in the copper mines on the upper peninsula of Michigan.

He saved his money, and after he had earned enough to pay his fare, he started for the Coast, visiting Washington, Oregon and British Columbia. In the spring of 1875 he arrived in San Francisco, where he worked about a year. This experience of travel and mixing with various people contributed much to Mr. Nelson's education, and fitted him to cope with conditions as he found them later on. While in San Francisco he met a man who owned the

Sisquoc ranch and who wanted workmen; whereupon Mr. Nelson hired out, took the steamer to Avila, and from there went by horse stage to Guadalupe and the ranch. For several years he remained there, giving his best efforts to his employer and meanwhile saving his money, until he felt justified in branching out for himself. He then bought land and raised grain. He now has a small dairy of twelve cows, raises beans, and keeps about 1,000 white Leghorn chickens. All the improvements seen on the ranch have been placed there by its owner; ornamental and fruit trees have been set out, fences have been built, and other things necessary to make of it a comfortable home place have been done.

Mr. Nelson was married, October 24, 1883, in San Luis Obispo County to Margaret Christensen, who was born in Schleswig, January 30, 1860, a daughter of Hans C. and Ingeborg (Hansen) Christensen, who never left their native land. The father died there in 1912, aged seventy-five; the mother, now aged seventy-nine, is still living. They had eight children, seven of whom are living; and four of these are in California: John Christensen, who lives near Edna; Hans, of Nipomo; Maria, who married John Nelson, and resides in Lompoc; and Mrs. Ole Nelson. Mr. and Mrs. Nelson had twelve children. Elsie, who married Andrew Ditlefsen, has four children and resides near Biggs, Butte county; Ingeborg is at home with her parents; Oline is the wife of H. P. Schmidt, residing in Healdsburg; Cecelia, who became the wife of Ernest Wineman, has three children and lives at Nipomo; Ninnie, who married Ernest Jacobsen, lives in Petaluma and has two children; Nils died in infancy; James lives in Penngrove, Sonoma county; Annie died at the age of eighteen; Margaret died when she was eight; Oliver, Hans and Raymond are all at home. Mr. Nelson is a member of Santa Maria Lodge No. 613, I. O. O. F., and in politics is a Democrat. He is a self-made man, and is known as a man of dependable word. In the evening of their days, he and his good wife live in the enjoyment of the well-earned reward of their years of toil, surrounded by their children and grandchildren, and by a host of friends.

**ERNEST H. GIBSON.**—Competent and efficient as cashier of the First National Bank of Santa Maria, E. H. Gibson has grown up in the banking business, in which he has always been found reliable and accurate. He was born on January 29, 1885, a son of Joseph B. Gibson, who was born in the north of Ireland in 1859. After a creditable record in Belfast, Ireland, the father settled in Chicago, in 1883. He was closely associated with Lyman Gage, ex-secretary of the treasury, and former president of the First National Bank of Chicago. In 1890 Joseph B. Gibson left Chicago and spent about ten months in the state of Washington, after which he came down to San Luis Obispo County, and settled at Arroyo Grande, where he is now employed in the Bank of Arroyo Grande. He married Annie Hamilton, and they became the parents of five children.

The eldest of these, E. H. Gibson, was but five years old when his parents died, and his education was obtained in the schools in Arroyo Grande. Owing to the fact that his father had met with reverses by purchasing some poor land, the son had to go to work before finishing the high school. He entered the Bank of Arroyo Grande in 1904, as a clerk, and seven months later was made cashier of the Bank of Cambria, which was organized in 1905. He remained with the Bank of Cambria until 1908, when he accepted

O. H. Gibson, Cashier, National Bank of Santa Maria.

Mr. Gibson was united in marriage with Miss Ruth Maulsby, a well-known lady of Santa Maria and a graduate of the Santa Maria high school. She was residing in Whittier at the time of their marriage in 1913. Both Mr. and Mrs. Gibson are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a member of the board of trustees of the church and is now superintendent of the Sunday school. In 1914 he was elected a member of the board of city trustees of Santa Maria. He and his wife are prominent in church circles, both being deeply interested in religious work.

**BENJAMIN BROOKS.**—Ever since the year 1635 the Brooks family has been identified with American history, at which time they settled in New York. Many of the early representatives of the name were shipmasters and owned merchantmen engaged in trade with the West Indies. Benjamin S. Brooks was the son of a wealthy shipowner; but at an early age his talents seemed to point in the direction of the law, and he entered that profession. In 1849 he joined the throngs that sought the far West. He went, not to search for gold, but to follow his profession. He settled in San Francisco and began practice, becoming in that city an honored member of the bar and a successful attorney. He was connected with almost all of the important land cases of his time throughout the state. He was a successful business man, as well as an attorney, and had accumulated considerable wealth when, in 1883, he died in San Francisco, aged about sixty years. He was twice married. By his first wife, who was a New York lady, he had one son, Benjamin; and by the second wife, another son, William, who became prominent in San Francisco.

Benjamin Brooks was born in New York City, October 25, 1842, and was educated in the noted academy at Fairfield, Conn., until he was thirteen, after which he came to California and attended the public schools in San Francisco. Intending to enter the profession of the law, he studied in his father's office and elsewhere and was admitted to the bar. About this time Gen. John C. Fremont, who was a warm friend of his father, offered him a position with the Union Pacific Railroad. Returning to San Francisco in 1865, he resumed the practice of law, and later accepted a position in the custom house there. For five years afterwards he was connected with the freight department of the Southern Pacific Railroad.

It was during 1885 that Mr. Brooks came to San Luis Obispo, where he became owner and proprietor of the Tribune, which under his able management has become the leading paper in the county and one of the leading Republican organs of Central California. The paper was conducted as a weekly until 1893, when it became a daily. Not only through his paper, but also personally, Mr. Brooks gives his influence to the Republican party; and as a member of the county and state central committees, he has filled every trust reposed in him. He is a Mason, a member of the lodge chapter and commandery in San Luis Obispo, and of the Eastern Star, while the Independent Order of Foresters, the B. P. O. Elks and the Royal Arcanum number him among their active members and their past officers. He assisted in organizing the San Luis Obispo Building and Loan Association and for years served as its president.

In 1867 Mr. Brooks was united in marriage with Miss Ella Steele, daughter of Hon. John B. Steele, who was a member of Congress from New York. She is a niece of Judge George Steele, a leading citizen of San Luis Obispo.

County, and also of Gen. Fred Steele, an officer in the Union army in the Civil War, for whom the Grand Army post in San Luis Obispo is named. Mr. Brooks is a man of genial manner, possessing tact, intelligence and good-fellowship, and a personality that impresses and charms, the whole combining to make him one of the influential and popular men of the county.

**REGA DENT FREEMAN.**—That nothing succeeds like success is demonstrated in the life history of Rega Dent Freeman, successful farmer and stockman in the Ranchita district of San Luis Obispo county. A native of Georgia, born at Indian Springs, Butts county, December 24, 1874, the eldest son of T. F. Freeman (who is represented on another page in this history), Rega Dent was reared on a stock ranch in Young county, Texas, where he learned to ride the range and to care for cattle, attending meanwhile the public schools in his locality.

He was married in Palo Pinto county, Tex., on September 26, 1897, to Miss Dovie Nickless, a native of that county, whose father, David Nickless, was born in Alabama, but was reared in Louisiana, afterwards becoming a farmer in Palo Pinto county, Tex. Her mother, Epsey Melton, was born in Louisiana. Both are still living in Texas. After their marriage, the Freemans farmed in Texas until 1902, removing thence to Arizona, where Mr. Freeman followed farming above the Roosevelt dam and also hauled concrete and cement for the construction of the canal.

In 1905, he located at Bradley, Monterey county, Cal., and with his brother Joe leased the H. A. Fallman ranch of 1,960 acres. A couple of years later he bought his brother out, and continued farming alone until, in 1910, he purchased the present place of 1,120 acres, nine miles east of San Miguel in the Ranchita school district. He immediately set about improving the place, building an addition to his residence, and new barns, and fencing in the place; and since then he has purchased land adjoining until he now owns 1,740 acres in a body, which he devotes to grain and stock-raising. About 1,200 acres is tillable land, and each year about three hundred fifty acres is sown to barley and wheat, and one hundred acres is planted to corn. Aside from raising cattle and hogs, he is making a specialty of raising mules, of which he has some fine specimens, which he sells for as high a

price as for horses. Mr. and Mrs. Freeman have seven children: Ona, Thelma, Richard, Eugene, Ralph, Ernest, and May.

Being greatly interested in the cause of education and in providing good schools, Mr. Freeman is serving as a trustee of Ranchita district. Fraternally, Mr. Freeman is a Mason, a member of San Miguel Lodge, No. 285, and in politics he is a Democrat. Mr. Freeman and his estimable wife are very hospitable, and ever ready to give of their time and means toward any movement for the betterment of the community.

**MATHIAS R. SWALL.**—The town of Arroyo Grande has drawn within its hospitable limits many men whose business capacity and fine traits of citizenship would be a credit to any community, and foremost among these is Mathias R. Swall, business man, banker and promoter of the best interests of the town. He was born in La Salle county, Ill., March 19, 1862, a son of Mathias and Elizabeth (Haines) Swall, the former a native of Germany. Of this union twelve children were born. Mr. Swall brought his family to California and temporarily settled in San Jose in 1865; then he moved to the



Reed & Freeman

1870-74



## SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY AND INHABITANTS

San Joaquin valley and until 1871 farmed near what is now Tracy. He then went to Monterey county, where he followed the same work until he moved to Ventura county in 1875, and engaged in raising beans. In 1881, he moved to that part of Los Angeles county now known as Sherman; and there he lived retired until his death, in 1896.

Mathias R. Swall attended the public schools of California. In 1880 he started in to learn the butcher trade in San Jose; and after three years he was competent to carry on business for himself and was thus engaged until 1888, when he sold out and started to look for a good location for an energetic business man desiring to grow up with the community. Finally arriving in Arroyo Grande, he found his opportunity and bought out a shop; and there, during the following eighteen years, he conducted a growing business, in the meantime buying and selling stock on a large scale. He disposed of the shop in 1906, and relinquished the cattle business in 1908.

In 1901, the Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo established a branch of their institution in Arroyo Grande. Mr. Swall became one of the local stockholders; and in 1903, when the branch bank was purchased by local capitalists, he became a director of the new organization, known as the Bank of Arroyo Grande. In 1908 he was elected vice-president, and in 1910 became president of the concern. It has been largely through his efforts that the bank has grown to its present prosperous condition and is so firmly established in the community. It has grown from a modest business to a bank of considerable importance in the coast region, and holds the confidence of a large number of depositors.

Mr. Swall was united in marriage at Los Gatos, April 25, 1885, with Miss Mary Mullen, who was born in San Mateo county, a member of a pioneer family, and of this union there are the following children: Mabel, now Mrs. L. R. Parsons, and William, Raymond, Romie, Francis, Earl, Lester, Edith, Malcolm, Elwin, Marian and Eva. Mr. Swall is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, has passed through all the chairs, and has been a delegate to the Grand Lodge; and he is a member and past officer in the Modern Woodmen of America. He is an active member in the Episcopal Church.

**HENRY SANFORD WILLSON.**—Prominent among those whose longevity attests to the wonderful climatic advantages of Creston, and equally eminent among those whose own personal recollections reach back into the earliest annals of the region, Henry Sanford Willson is a native son, so long identified with San Luis Obispo County that he is the oldest settler in the Highlands, and the second oldest in the vicinity of Creston. He was born in San Juan, Monterey county, July 16, 1855, the son of Dan Willson, a bricklayer and a member of an old Yankee family, who first saw the light on January 22, 1827. His father worked at his trade in New England until, impelled by the gold fever of 1849, he came to the Pacific Coast. With his brother, Dorson, he went to Boston and joined a company of fifty-four adventurers, who purchased the sailing vessel "Emma Isadora," under Captain McHenry, and sailed her around Cape Horn. Quite one hundred sixty-four days out, the party arrived at San Francisco, September 12, 1849. Continuing on to Stockton, they sold the vessel, divided the proceeds, and dissolved the company; after which each went his way into the mines, to seek for gold and fortune. One of this party was James Mitchell, a Scotchman, who in later years located



homestead in Highlands, San Luis Obispo County, adjoining the place now held by our subject, and resided here until he died.

When "grub" was twenty-five cents a pound, Dan and Dorson Willson walked a hundred fifty miles to the Mariposa mines. The brothers afterward came over to Gilroy, where they had a store, and cut the first hay in that vicinity. They traded over a wide region, doing business with the Spanish families in the Soap Lake country; and it was there that Dan Willson met Miss Becente Sanchez who, in 1854, became his wife. She was born on the Sanchez ranch between Sargent Station and San Juan, a daughter of Don Jose Maria Sanchez, a native of Mexico, who owned a ranch of several leagues and was a large stockman, raising a large number of cattle and horses. Having a great quantity of tallow and other cattle products, he manufactured much soap; and from the industry thus created arose the name of the lake. Death overtook him in a tragic way, for he was accidentally drowned one night while crossing the Pajaro river, and his body was never found. The property was divided between Don Jose's four children. Becente received a large share; and she and her husband moved onto the ranches. Some of the land lay at San Juan, and some of it within the city limits. Dan Willson served twenty years as a trustee of the San Juan school district. In his last illness, he went to Hollister; and there, in 1906, at the age of seventy-eight, he died, and was buried with full Masonic honors.

Besides Henry S. Willson, four children were the issue of this union: George S., deceased; Emma, now Mrs. McElwee, of San Luis Obispo; Elbridge D., of San Jose; and Alma S., who is in Hollister. Henry was brought up at San Juan and Gilroy, where he attended the public schools and worked on a farm. In 1875, he came to Carissa Plains, San Luis Obispo County, and engaged in sheep-raising, partly with his father, and was among the first to graze sheep in that section. In the dry year of 1877, he drove a flock of fifteen hundred sheep to Watsonville, and the following year brought what was left of them to Palo Prieto.

In September, 1878, he came to Highlands with his father's old friend, James Mitchell, and engaged with him in the cattle business on Mitchell's homestead. In 1879 he took a flock of sheep to Los Alamos, Santa Barbara county, and in the fall brought them back here, maintaining them until he sold out in order to engage again in the cattle business. At the end of five years, he dissolved partnership with Mitchell, but continued to raise stock.

By July, 1883, he had located his homestead and hauled the lumber from San Luis Obispo with which to build the necessary house and barns. He then began to raise hay and fodder, and about that time established his brand—a W with an S at the top, lying flat. He is still in the sheep and cattle business, making a specialty of the Durham strain, and also raises thoroughbred horses. He is also engaged in the raising of grain. He has bought considerable land, at different times, adjoining his own, commencing with a three hundred-twenty-acre purchase. He now possesses twelve hundred eighty acres all in one body on Indian creek. The Willson ranch is well watered by numerous springs and creeks, and lies ten miles east of Creston.

When Henry Willson first came here, he was made a trustee of the Huer Huero school district, and helped build there the first schoolhouse of logs and shakes. Later, he helped organize the Highland school district,

and was a trustee for many years, and for some time clerk, a position he still holds. He is also serving as roadmaster of his district.

On January 7, 1877, at Soledad, Henry Sanford Willson was married to Miss Sarah Shepherd. She was born in what is now Hollister (then in Monterey county), and was a daughter of Dr. William N. Shepherd, a native of the vicinity of Bowling Green, Ky. Her grandfather, a farmer, was a Virginian, who settled in the Blue Grass State, where he died. Her father studied medicine and began practice as a homeopathic physician. He also learned the trade of stone and brick mason. He came to California in 1852, crossing the plains with an ox team. He stopped for a while in Alameda county, and then, in 1854, located on the grant now called Hollister. He thought it was Government land, and made improvements, but after several years found that it was still a grant, and that he must lose everything. He then moved to the Penoché country, where he took up land; but this he soon gave up. He returned to San Juan, where he remained for several years, and then in succession moved to Gilroy and San Jose, farming and raising cattle. Finally reaching the Highlands, he homesteaded and proved up on a tract, which he later sold. He then retired to San Juan, where he died at the age of seventy-nine. His wife was Miss Elizabeth Clark, before her marriage. She was a native of Illinois, who crossed the plains with friends in a party that included Dr. Shepherd, to whom she was married on her arrival in California. At Gilroy she breathed her last, the mother of nine children, five of whom are still living. Mrs. Willson, who passed her childhood in the San Juan district and was educated at the public schools there, was the eldest of all; while the others are Mrs. Mary Beckwith, of Gilroy; Mrs. Martha Blackwell, of Stanislaus county; Mrs. Laura Prather, of Kings county; and Eugene N. Shepherd, of Arizona. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Willson are Lillie, otherwise known as Mrs. Lyman Willson, of Gilroy; Edith, who married Mike Barba, of Creston; Hazel, who is Mrs. Ramon Barba, of the same place; Harry, who lives at Carissa Plains; Edward, who is in Carpinteria; Dan, who is a rancher at Templor Mountain, Kern county; and Winifred and Mabel, who live at home with their parents.

Never wanting in the matter of a response to civic duty, and always willing to participate actively in any movement for the expansion and uplift of his community, Mr. Willson takes a keen interest in politics, generally voting according to Republican standards. In the service of that party he has been a member of the County Central Committee.

**CHARLES H. PEARSON.**—Whether you are looking for an old-fashioned country store—the one store, if you please, in a small, but wide-awake community, and one, perhaps, cut off more or less from the great outside world—where a little of everything, so to speak, and sometimes an astonishing assortment and quantity, considering the population, is sold, could not fail to enjoy a visit to just such an unpretentious, but important, establishment as that of Charles H. Pearson, the veteran leading merchant and pioneer of Los Alamos. His father was Richard Pearson, a native of the north of Ireland, who died when Charles was two years old. His mother was Elizabeth Whitcher, a native of England. The parents migrated to Canada; and in 1872, seventeen years after her husband's death, the mother came with her only boy to California, where she lived until her death at the ripe age of eighty.

Born in the province of Quebec, December 5, 1852, Charles H. Pearson was nineteen when he came to California. He came from Montreal to San Francisco, via the Union Pacific Railway, and continued south to Monterey county. He stopped at Castroville for a while with an uncle, Charles Whitcher, worked in Salinas and San Juan, and then, in 1876, removed to Guadalupe, where he began clerking for H. J. Laughlin & Co.

In 1879 he came to Los Alamos, which then had only a half dozen houses scattered around. He had learned the blacksmith's trade in Canada; and now he opened a blacksmith shop, with a cousin. When, at the end of three years, H. J. Laughlin established a branch store here, Mr. Pearson became his confidential clerk, and stayed with him until 1886. Here he bought the lot on the corner long owned by him, the sale of which had been deferred because of a minor, and for which he had waited two years, and built the store now long famous under the firm name of C. H. Pearson. He commenced with a half dozen lines of goods, and gradually enlarged his stock of general merchandise until it included staple and fancy groceries, dry goods, boots and shoes, hardware, agricultural implements, crockery, hats, caps and millinery—the goods of late easily totalling a round twenty-five thousand dollars in value. Thirty years ago, too, he laid in a stock of coffins and caskets, and so, in a measure, has facilitated the work of the undertaker.

About that time Charles Pearson went back to Canada. In the days of his childhood at school he had known Miss Jeanette Spafford, and now he journeyed across the continent to claim her heart and hand. Their marriage is blessed by two children, Nettie Elizabeth and Agnes Marian, who contribute to the attractiveness of his home and to the high esteem in which his family is everywhere held.

But Mr. Pearson is not only a merchant—he is a farmer as well. He owns three ranches; one of fifty acres, another of a hundred, and a third of sixty-five, all of which lie in the Los Alamos valley. In addition, he rents 2,500 acres on the Bell ranch, for which estate he was agent for many years. This is devoted mainly to stock-raising. Ever since he came here, in 1879, he has liked the country, and these successful ventures in lands and stock have made him a most optimistic supporter and booster of Los Alamos. Particularly has he been impressed by the operations of Mr. E. L. Doheny, of Los Angeles, who bought the Bell ranch in 1916 for \$1,800,000—a sale consummated by T. C. Blakeman, a San Francisco attorney. Mr. Doheny has already brought in one five-hundred-barrel well on the tract, while two more are ready to come in.

Mr. Pearson is a Republican. He voted for Grant, in 1872, in Monterey county. He has always been a public-spirited citizen, taking a commendable interest in politics, and he has had something to do with public office himself. He has cheerfully performed such ordinary duties as that of jury service, and has acted for years as clerk of the board of school trustees. At the present time he is deputy sheriff under Sheriff Stewart, by whom he was appointed in the latter's first term. He has taken an active part in every project for the betterment of the community. He has welcomed the Pacific Coast Railway and the oil industry; and he has aided in the development of farming, stock-raising and dairying, and in the erection of good schools and churches. The great work of his later years, however, has been the advocacy of the State Highway. He is a devoted apostle of good roads, and was somewhat respon-





*M. P. Hansen*

sible for having the route of the State Highway so laid out that it is through Los Alamos.

Brought up in the Episcopal Church and always a supporter of churches, Mr. Pearson, together with his wife and daughters, has in recent years been a member of the Presbyterian Church at Los Alamos.

**MORTEN PETER HANSEN.** What may be done by any loyal citizen in enthusiastically setting forth the true conditions in and advantages of California, and so attracting the outsiders to the Golden State, may be seen in the chance circumstances through which Morten Peter Hansen, a member of the good old family of Jens Peter Hansen, came to the Coast and eventually cast in his lot with the community of Shandon. His mother was Petrenella Madsen, and she is still living at the old home where Morten passed his boyhood days, although her husband, an ardent Lutheran like herself, died at the age of seventy-six.

Morten Hansen was born at Stege, Moen, Denmark, November 27, 1863, the son of a farmer, and so grew up on a farm, while he attended the public school of his district. When he had finished with teachers and books he worked out on other farms, and then, for a year, learned the shoemaker's trade. In 1881, he came to the United States and to Cedar Falls, Ia., where he put in four years on a farm and nursery. His thoughts had already been turned westward, and he planned to push on to Dakota; but just then he ran across a man, Hans Hansen, who had been in San Luis Obispo County and who told Morten in such terms of enthusiasm and confidence of the many advantages of climate and soil, and opportunities in the undeveloped state, that the young Dane determined to give up all thought of Dakota and make for California instead.

In 1885, therefore, he crossed the great plains, nor did he stop until he reached San Luis Obispo County, where he set to work in dead earnest to get a foothold and make good. In the beginning he was compelled to work out, to chop wood, to engage himself with a thresher, to dig wells and to drive big teams. Disappointed with his experiences, he was inclined to return East at the end of the first year. He stayed, however, and the longer he remained the more he liked the new country. In the first few months he received but eighteen dollars per month, but when he had saved forty dollars he filed on his homestead, although that one act alone took half his capital. On his arrival in the vicinity of Creston and Shandon, he found raw conditions indeed. There were no fences, wild cattle roamed over the hills, and the only safe way to travel was on horseback instead of on foot.

For a time Mr. Hansen resided at San Luis Obispo and at Morro; but in 1886, believing that he would like the mountains better, he came to Creston and Shandon, and there homesteaded a hundred sixty acres and pre-empted another hundred sixty, four miles south of Shandon. He built a cabin, broke the land, improved the farm, and built neighboring roads. To him, as a pioneer, it was also reserved to see the first furrow turned at Creston and, as the years went by, to note the wonderful transformation from wild nature to improved farms and pastures.

His first crop was obtained in the second year, when he cut hay; and by the third year he had sixty acres all sown by hand. He traded his grain for three head of horses, and the fourth year he raised twenty-one hundred sacks on about two hundred acres of land. The next year he raised

Mr. Post bought a quarter section of land, which gave him four hundred eighty acres in one body. He leased land and farmed sixteen hundred acres, six hundred twenty being in grain. In one year he harvested over five thousand sacks.

In 1911 he bought his present ranch of one hundred sixty acres from the original homestead of George Post, one and a half miles from Shandon, on which the old town of Starkey and post office were located before the town of Shandon was started. There was but the beginning of a settlement, and both general store and drug store were on his ranch. Mr. Hansen built a new residence, made improvements, and raised grain with success. He added to his holdings by purchasing two lots in Richmond, and has since acquired valuable lots and buildings in Shandon. He also owns sixty acres of bottom land at the forks of the San Juan, Cholame and Estrella rivers. On one of his properties he has sunk two artesian wells, one to the depth of two hundred seventy-eight feet, and the other three hundred fifteen feet, both flowing wells, out of which he is able to irrigate seventeen acres without a reservoir, which gives him six crops of alfalfa annually. All of his land is suitable for the raising of that product, and he is rapidly seeding the entire acreage. He has a dairy also, with twelve Holstein and Jersey cows; and he raises cattle, draft horses and hogs.

As a man of business affairs, Mr. Hansen is a member and a director of the Farmers' Alliance Business Association of Paso Robles, and he is also interested in the Paso Robles Mercantile Co., of which he is a director. He also has stock in the Co-operative Oil Co., which is located on the "Jim" Hughes ranch in Red Hills on the San Juan river. He is also a stockholder in the Vulcan Fire Insurance Co., of Oakland, Cal.

At old Starkey, December 30, 1897, Morten Hansen was married to Miss Elizabeth Boring, who came from Mill Creek, Huntington county, Penn., the daughter of Michael T. and Rebecca (Sloan) Boring, farmers in that state. Mrs. Hansen was educated in that vicinity and came to San Luis Obispo County in 1897. Six children have been born of this marriage: James T., Edgar M., Arma Marie, Bessie M., Harry W., and David S., all at home.

Mr. Hansen has seen much of the world, crossing the Atlantic and the American continent three times, revisiting old home scenes in Denmark, and touring England. On one of his trips he sailed from England to New York on the "Lusitania," and on his journeys between the Atlantic and the Pacific he has visited the majority of important American cities. He is independent in politics, with progressive principles.

**GEORGE WINFIELD GILLESPIE.**—The proprietor of the only blacksmith shop in Cambria, an efficient and painstaking mechanic, George W. Gillespie has been a witness of the rapid growth of San Luis Obispo County, where he was born on the old Gillespie ranch, two and one-half miles west of what is now Cambria, September 6, 1867, a son of William M. and Caroline C. Leffingwell Gillespie. The father lived in various states until 1849, when in company with thirty-one others he set out to cross the plains with mule teams to California. Months later, however, when he arrived at his journey's end, there were but nine of the original members with the party, some having died and some having been killed by the Indians. On arriving here, Mr. Gillespie went at once to the mines; but he did not "strike it rich," so he turned his attention and talents to other lines of activity. Going to

Sonoma county, with a partner, he built a sawmill, got out lumber and found a ready sale for it. The methods at that time were primitive, but these pioneers made the best of conditions as they found them and usually got better results than they anticipated. In 1862 he came to San Luis Obispo County and bought timber land on Santa Rosa creek. Here he erected a sawmill and cut down the timber, manufacturing it into lumber. This was the second sawmill built in this county. After the timber had been cleared, Mr. Gillespie began farming and stock-raising. In 1891 he went to Pine Mountain, and there put up a sawmill. He also engaged in mining quicksilver, owning the Pine Mountain and the Ocean View quicksilver mines. During his residence in the county, Mr. Gillespie was road master of his district for several years. He and his wife, who was a native of New York state, had eight children, seven of whom are living, George W. Gillespie being the fifth in order of birth.

George W. Gillespie attended the public school of Cambria and the schools on San Simeon creek and San Simeon bay until he was sixteen. He worked with his father until he was twenty-four, and then apprenticed himself to learn the trade of blacksmith with Mr. Eubanks of his home town. Two years later, he went to Alameda county, where he was employed at ranching for one year near Pleasanton. He then returned to Cayucos and embarked in the blacksmith business in 1894, and a short time later formed a partnership with James Pedrotta, which continued until 1903, when Mr. Gillespie sold out to his partner. He then located in Cambria and started in the blacksmith's business. In 1905 he bought out the old Eubanks shop. He has built up a large trade and has been successful financially. He does general blacksmithing and repairs all kinds of machinery. His shop is equipped with the most modern and up-to-date machinery; and the genial proprietor has won a host of friends by his courteous treatment and fair dealings.

On February 11, 1905, Mr. Gillespie was united in marriage, at San Luis Obispo, with Miss Bertha Evelyn Wittenberg, who was born in Arroyo Grande, and they have two children, Muriel and Evelyn. Mrs. Gillespie instituted El Pinal Parlor, Native Daughters of the Golden West, at Cambria; while Mr. Gillespie is a charter member of Cambria Parlor, Native Sons of the Golden West, organized November 9, 1889, with twenty-one members, of whom only five are left. The parlor now has sixty members. Mr. Gillespie is a past president and has served as a delegate to the Grand Parlor two times, and is a very active member of the order. His political preferences are with the Republican party. From 1894 until 1903 he served as constable of Cayucos; and he has in many other ways demonstrated his executive ability, and is looked upon as one of the leading citizens of the coast section of the county.

**JENS BENNEDSEN.**—A progressive, patriotic citizen of the United States and a successful business man of San Luis Obispo is found in Jens Bennedsen, dealer in paints and wall paper, and a contracting painter. He was born in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, May 4, 1884. His parents died when he was quite small, and he was brought up by an uncle and aunt. He was apprenticed to learn the painter's trade and served four years.

From 1900 until 1910 he followed that trade in his native country, and in the latter year came to the United States and direct to San Luis Obispo, reaching here with but five dollars in his pockets and unable to speak any English. He worked hard during the day at his trade as a journeyman



master, and when he had become familiar with our customs, he began taking contracts on his own account and was very successful; for he was thoroughly familiar with every detail of his trade. Starting in a small way, he gradually built up a good business, and in January, 1915, opened a store at 680 Higuera street, where he carries a full line of paints, oils, varnishes and wall paper. He is meeting with deserved success in this venture, and still contracts for business at his trade and has done considerable fine work for the leading building contractors in San Luis Obispo, as well as in the surrounding country.

Mr. Bennedsen owns his own home at 1426 Marsh street. He is an actively interested member of the Chamber of Commerce and the Merchants' Association, and also of the Lutheran Church of his adopted city. In June, 1916, he became a citizen of this country at San Luis Obispo.

When it is taken into consideration that Mr. Bennedsen was deprived of his parents in early childhood, and since that time has been thrown practically on his own resources, and that he is now embarked in an enterprise of importance and stands high as a citizen who has made his own way to his present position in San Luis Obispo, it is clear that his is an example worthy of emulation.

**FRANK COSTA.**—A much-respected resident of Arroyo Grande, Frank Costa was born in the Azores Islands, December 9, 1850, the son of a poor farmer who had to have the help of his children in the support of the family as soon as they became old enough to work. Under these conditions, there was not much of an opportunity for obtaining an education except in the school of adversity. Frank Costa lived at home and helped his father until he was twenty-three years old.

Arriving in New York on May 20, 1873, his first work was in a brick-yard at Taunton, Mass., where he remained about eighteen months. During this time he had become accustomed to the ways of the country, and having heard about California, he decided that he would come West. He found employment in California City, near San Francisco, and from there he went to Marin county and worked in a dairy and, in 1882, had a dairy of his own.

With the experience obtained in farming, Mr. Costa came to San Luis Obispo County, in 1883, and for the following ten years leased part of the Hearst ranch at San Simeon, and ran a dairy of one hundred ten cows with success. His next move was to the Biddle ranch, six miles from Arroyo Grande, where he pastured one hundred cows on seven hundred sixty acres.

After twenty years of successful labor, during which, in 1893, he became a citizen of the United States, Mr. Costa came to his present place, where he owns one hundred fifty-seven acres, devoted to the raising of beans, and still keeps a few cows in his dairy. There, in 1913, he erected a comfortable home. He is practically retired from active life, and has turned his ranching over to his sons. In 1906, Mr. Costa bought a fine ranch of four hundred forty-five acres on Morro creek, which is devoted to dairy purposes. He is a member of the Catholic Church and of the U. P. E. C.

Mr. Costa was united in marriage with Felicia Rosa; and they have the following children: Frank, at Los Alamos; Manuel; Mrs. Mary Silva; Joseph, on the Morro ranch; and George, Antone, John, Andre, Alfred, and Rosie. Mr. Costa is a self made man, and an honest and unselfish citizen.





*J. Waile.*

**DAVID WAITE.**—The town of Paso Robles, with its various line activity, has drawn within its hospitable and ambitious limits many men whose business capacity and fine traits of citizenship would be a credit to any community. Foremost among these is David Waite, farmer, stockman, official and merchant, and promoter of the city's most substantial interests. A native of England, he was born in Sheffield, October 4, 1844. His father, William Waite, born in Lincolnshire, was a merchant in Sheffield, who married Ann Fotheringham, a native of Nottinghamshire; and they became the parents of five children.

David Waite was reared in Sheffield, attended the public schools and assisted his father in his store. At the age of fourteen he was apprenticed to a silversmith, and served seven and one half years; and he followed that trade until coming to America in 1866. On his arrival in New York City, he went to Taunton, Mass., and was employed by the firm of Read & Barton, the largest manufacturing silversmiths in that city; and he remained with them until 1871, when he arrived in California.

He first went to Tulare county and located near what is now Hanford, Kings county, took up one hundred sixty acres of government land and engaged in raising grain and stock. Two years later he located on a ranch in the southeastern part of Fresno county and remained until 1878, when he settled in San Luis Obispo County and homesteaded one hundred sixty acres nine miles northwest of Cholame. He devoted his time to the stock business, making a specialty of Durham cattle, and using the brand DW. He successfully carried on this ranch until 1908, when he sold his stock and the next year disposed of the ranch; then he located in Paso Robles and bought forty acres for a home on Salinas river, expecting to retire.

In 1909, he entered mercantile life by purchasing the newspaper agencies, and established his present business on Twelfth street. He is a dealer in books, stationery, and magazines, and has the agencies for the San Francisco, Oakland and Los Angeles papers, and has built up a fine business throughout the city and his section of the county. He is a thorough-going business man and gives his personal attention to conducting and developing the business.

In Taunton, Mass., was celebrated the marriage of David Waite with Miss Elizabeth Hill, who, like himself, was born in Sheffield, England. Her father, Benjamin Hill, brought his family to Taunton, where he engaged in his business of manufacturing files. Into the family of Mr. and Mrs. Waite six children have been born. Arthur is employed in the oil fields; Herbert lives near Salinas; Theresa has become Mrs. George Hopper, and resides near San Miguel; Annie is Mrs. Tolle, a dealer in art goods in Paso Robles; and Lawrence and Alice are at home in Paso Robles.

Mr. Waite has served as a member, and was (mayor) president of the board of trustees of Paso Robles; was elected in 1892 a member of the board of supervisors from the first supervisorial district and served one term; and was trustee of the school board in Eagle school district for years, and helped to build the first schoolhouse. While in national affairs he favors the policies of the Democratic party, in local matters he votes for the men best qualified for the office regardless of party lines, believing that the best results are obtained by so doing. He is a member of and at present (1916) is Noble Grand in Santa Lucia Lodge No. 250, I. O. O. F., and a member of the En-

commander and a past officer, and also belongs to the Rebekahs. He is a member of and has served as vestryman in the Episcopal Church.

**THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF SANTA MARIA.**—The First National Bank of Santa Maria was organized in 1904, and the institution opened for business on August 5, 1905. Its original capitalization was \$50,000, and the officers were as follows: Archibald McNeil, president; Reuben Hart, vice-president; and John E. Walker, cashier. The directors were: John E. Walker, John Boyd, Reuben Hart, Archibald McNeil, and John Houk.

In 1908 E. H. Gibson succeeded John E. Walker as cashier, and on January 1, 1910, J. L. Glines became assistant cashier. Wm. T. Laughlin is clerk. From the first the bank enjoyed the confidence of the community, for its officers and directors were men of unquestioned integrity and honor; and the business grew year by year until now it ranks with the solid financial institutions of the central coast section. Besides paying dividends, the bank, according to the statement of November 17, 1916, has a surplus and undivided profits of \$55,000, with resources of all kinds of \$621,000. The presiding officers and directors are all men of resources, and the progressive institution is practically a "home" bank.

**WILLIS H. TRUESDALE.**—Willis H. Truesdale, a successful farmer and stockman of the Shandon district, was born in Lima, Ohio, the son of George K. Truesdale, also a native Ohioan, and a stone-mason, plasterer and carpenter. The elder Truesdale belonged to Company G, 81st Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in the Civil War, was wounded at the Battle of Corinth, re-enlisted at the close of his term of enlistment, and served until the close of the great struggle; and few things give the son greater satisfaction today than the honorable record of his father, who became a first lieutenant, and as such led in many a brilliant attack. After the war, G. K. Truesdale resided at Lima; but in 1875 he came to Ventura, and there plied his trade. He wished to secure some good land, and came on an exploration trip to San Luis Obispo in 1883, with C. A. Barlow, afterwards member of Congress; and that year found him the first homesteader, with a hundred sixty acres near what is now Shandon, and in addition an eighty-acre timber claim. To these two hundred forty acres he added thirty more. His wife was Miss Martha E. Smith, who was born at Poland, Ohio. She died on December 20, 1912.

One of twin brothers, the third birth in a family of nine children (of whom eight are still living), Willis Truesdale was born with his brother, H. H., on January 19, 1872, and when only three years of age was brought to California. His education was obtained in the local schools. From a lad he was obliged to help on the farm, and so he early learned the rudiments of agriculture. When twenty-one years of age he and two brothers, J. C. and H. H., rented land and engaged in raising grain and hay. Two years later, on October 24, 1895, Willis was married, at Shandon, to Miss Zora Grainger, whose birthplace was Topeka, Kansas. Her father was C. Baxter Grainger, a native of Missouri, of English descent, who achieved some distinction in the Union Army. As a Kansas farmer, Baxter Grainger came to California in 1870, making for Ventura county, where he farmed for eight years. In 1884 he homesteaded two miles south of what is now Shandon, and later he was one of the early merchants in that town. He now resides at Berros, this county.

His wife, Jennie Gardner, was a native of Kan-

sas. She died in Ventura county. Three children are still living. Zora and Nora, the eldest, and twins (the latter now Mrs. H. H. Truesdale of Shandon), were married the same evening. In time, Willis and his brother, H. H., engaged in grain- and stock-raising. They began by leasing three hundred twenty acres, and afterwards leased other lands and enlarged their farming operations until they finally farmed a thousand acres. In 1897, they leased eight hundred eighty acres of the old Roselip place, two miles south of Shandon, which they operated for ten years and then purchased the place; and still later they bought the Baxter Grainger place of one hundred sixty acres, so that now they have 1,040 acres in a body on San Juan creek, nearly all grain land, which they operate together. In addition, they also leased about nine hundred acres of stock land, raising cattle and horses, their brand being a goblet placed upright on the left hip. In one year they raised 6,000 sacks of grain. It required fifteen days to harvest the crop with the harvester, and six weeks, with two eight-horse teams, to haul the crop to Paso Robles. They usually sow from four hundred to four hundred fifty acres to grain, mostly wheat.

In November, 1914, the brothers bought the store at Shandon, from Shimmin & Stevens, and also the stage line between Shandon and Paso Robles. The stage makes a round trip, twenty-one miles, each day. In winter, horses are used on the route; but for the rest of the year a truck is used, carrying a ton or more of freight and mail to Paso Robles via Union. In 1916, they sold their store; but they still operate the stage line.

In 1914, Willis Truesdale brought his family, including seven children, to Paso Robles, where he owns a residence on Pine street, between 16th and 17th streets. A child Edwin had died in its first year; the others are Bertha, attending San Jose State Normal School; Bernice, a student in the Paso Robles High School; and Thomas, Orville, Clarence, George and Ruth.

Mr. Truesdale has been prominent in the councils of the Republican party. Mrs. Truesdale is a valued member of the Methodist Church. They were school children when their parents settled on the upper Estrella Plains. They remember the early happenings in their section, and can relate many interesting incidents of pioneer days.

**GEORGE M. DOANE, SR.**—Among the pioneers of Santa Maria whose association with California began in 1880, mention is due to George M. Doane, one of the leading contractors and business men of Santa Barbara county and senior member of the firm of George M. Doane & Sons of Santa Maria, Cal. He was born near Rockford, Winnebago county, Ill., September 27, 1849, a son of M. M. and Jane (Albright) Doane, natives of Canada and Pennsylvania respectively. When a young man, M. M. Doane came to the United States from Canada, residing for a time in Michigan, where he married, and thence moving to Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, in turn. He died in the last-named state at an advanced age. He was a Republican in politics, and active in the councils of the party, although he never was an office-seeker. His wife died in Iowa, aged fifty-two years. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and became the parents of ten children.

As a boy, George M. Doane was self-reliant and energetic. From the age of eleven, he was reared in Fayette county, Ia., attended the public schools, and at an early age began to work at the trade of carpenter, serving an apprenticeship at Elgin, Ia.; after which he followed the trade and dealt in

and came with him to California in 1880. Locating at once in Santa Maria, he began taking contracts, displaying an active interest in the development of the community. As fast as his sons became old enough to aid in the conduct of his business affairs, he took them into partnership; and the firm of George M. Doane & Sons is one of the best-known in the central coast section. For several years the firm dealt in paints, oils, varnishes and wall-paper, until they sold out in 1917. They still deal in builders' hardware, and do a general contracting and building business. Mr. Doane is prominent in other business ventures also, and acts as president of the Santa Maria Planing Mill Co., a corporation doing a general planing mill business, and dealing in all kinds of building material.

As a contractor, Mr. Doane has built all of the school buildings in Santa Maria, the Hotel Bradley, the three bank buildings, and all the business blocks except the Odd Fellows Hall and the Masonic building. The firm employ twenty mechanics on an average, and do business throughout the Santa Maria valley and in a part of San Luis Obispo County. They have erected about seventy per cent. of the residences in Santa Maria.

In Elgin, Ia., in 1869, occurred the marriage of George M. Doane and Miss Mary M. Hatfield, a native of Pennsylvania; and they have had seven children born to them: George M., Jr., a dealer in grain and beans in Santa Maria; Mary G., the widow of W. A. Mattocks; Clarence M., a member of the firm of George M. Doane & Sons; Milford L., manager of a lumber company in Santa Cruz, Cal.; Perry P.; Oscar M., also a member of the firm and an architect; and Richard V.

Mr. Doane is still active in supervising the work of building. He is prominent in politics as a Republican, though not aspiring to any office, having in fact repeatedly refused to permit his name to be presented for any office. He is a member of long standing in Hesperian Lodge No. 264, F. & A. M., in Santa Maria, and has served therein both as Junior Warden and as Senior

**FRANK A. AND MANUEL F. LIMA.**—A respected citizen and prosperous rancher, Manuel F. Lima has spent practically his entire life in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. He was born on the Laguna ranch, January 12, 1870, the second child of Frank A. and Frances G. (Enos) Lima, both natives of the Azores Islands. Frank A. Lima was born on Fial island, March 14, 1823, the son of a sawyer. He learned the cooper's trade, and followed it a short time in the old country. Then he took up a seafaring life, for twenty years sailing into many ports of the world, and even encircling the globe. He made one trip into the Arctic regions on a whaling voyage, and worked for different companies in the whaling trade. He landed in California, coming via Cape Horn, in 1852, as mate of a vessel, and first went into the mines on Sutter creek, where for three years he had success.

Mr. Lima then became connected with the freighting business up and down the coast, and in the sixties was captain of a whaler and manager of the Portuguese Whaling Company in California with headquarters at San Simeon, where the present lighthouse stands. They had landings at Monterey Bay, San Simeon, Port Harford (now San Luis) and San Diego. He was connected with the industry ten years, when it declined.

Mr. Lima had married in Fial, and left his wife on the island until, after making three trips back, he permanently located in California. She was born

January 12, 1830, and died May 28, 1910. He came to San Luis Obispo County, settled on the Laguna ranch and in 1879 bought one hundred sixty acres, half of which he later sold; and after he had farmed for some years, he bought thirteen acres near the town and lived practically retired until his death, February 16, 1908, aged eighty-five years.

Manuel F. Lima attended school in the Laguna district and at the San Luis Obispo High School, and lived at home on the ranch until he was twenty-one. He learned the trade of blacksmith with E. J. Kay, serving three years as apprentice, and then worked as a journeyman for J. Cooper and A. Peterson. Three years later, in 1896, he opened a shop of his own in Guadalupe; and for eight years his was the busiest shop in the town, and he made plenty of money. He then became a rancher, and in 1902 leased two hundred forty acres, part of the J. H. Tompson ranch, near Edna, San Luis Obispo County, and began raising beans and grain. He eventually bought sixty-four acres and still leased land, thereby enlarging his operations and his income.

The memory of Mr. Lima takes him back to his boyhood days, in 1876, when the town of San Luis Obispo consisted of a cluster of adobe houses about the mission, and the lowlands along the creek were covered with tule. Many vineyards were growing where the prosperous homes are now built. He was married in San Luis Obispo, in 1902, to Miss Ellen Villa, who was born in Castroville in 1876, her parents being pioneers of this state. Their three children are Alister, Frank and Arthur.

Mr. Lima is a Republican in politics and wields an influence in his section. He is a member of the U. P. E. C., and a charter member of Edna Lodge, was president, in 1916, of the I. D. E. S., and is a Blue Lodge Mason. He is a self-made man, a citizen whose word is thoroughly reliable, and who, by fair dealings and intelligent service, has won a reputation for public-spiritedness throughout his native county.

**WILLIAM H. SCHULZE.**—One of the substantial citizens and a retired merchant of San Luis Obispo is William H. Schulze, a native of Ratzeburg, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, who was born October 11, 1844, a son of Carl and Dorothy (Kuhlmann) Schulze, both natives of that country. William received his education in the schools of his native country and at the age of fifteen was apprenticed to a merchant in Lübeck, for a period of four years. In 1865, when twenty-one years of age, he came to the United States well equipped, through a business training, for a good position. Going to Cincinnati, O., he was employed as assistant bookkeeper and accountant with the firm of Duhme & Co., manufacturing jewelers and silversmiths, and held this responsible position four years.

In the meantime he had heard and read considerable of the Golden West, and in 1869 came to California. He remained in San Francisco one month, and then, with two friends, started for San Luis Obispo County, taking the train to Gilroy, then the end of the road. There they hired mounts, and rode horseback the rest of the way. Upon investigating conditions, Mr. Schulze decided to cast in his lot here, and engaged in farming for a time, and also in the bee business, purchasing from J. P. Andrews one hundred thirty-five stands of bees. In 1872 he went back to Cincinnati, and his old friend Herman Duhme advanced him \$5,000; and with this money he came West to Colorado and for the following eight years engaged in the sheep business in



Huerfano county. During this time he suffered many hardships from severe storms and had considerable trouble with Indians, who in that section did not take kindly to the white men.

Mr. Schulze later conducted a general merchandise business at Aguilar, Las Animas county, Colo., until 1897, when he disposed of his store and trade, and with the proceeds of his years of hard labor again returned to California. This time he settled in San Luis Obispo and engaged in the clothing and gents' furnishing goods business with Julius Loewenstein. They conducted the business together one year, when his partner died and Mr. Schulze bought out his interest; and since that time, with the aid of his sons, he has successfully carried on the business.

During the time that he was engaged in trade at Aguilar, he served as postmaster for a number of years, and one term as assessor of Las Animas county, moving his family into Trinidad. While in that county he became a personal and lifelong friend of Judge Julius C. Gunter, the present governor of Colorado.

In 1880 he was united in marriage with Adelia Draper, who was born in Illinois, and who was a school teacher for several years. They have had nine children: Carl L.; William H., Jr.; Jewett; Carrie; Claudius; Otto F.; Hertha, who is teaching school; Cora; and John H., who is employed in the Commercial Bank.

Mr. Schulze is a member of the B. P. O. Elks, Lodge No. 322, of San Luis Obispo. He is a trustee and one of the founders of the German Lutheran Church in San Luis Obispo. In 1912 Mr. Schulze gave the management of the clothing business over to his sons, Carl L., manager, William H., Jr., and Jewett. After an active career covering almost fifty years of business, therefore, Mr. Schulze is now living retired with his wife and family, enjoying to the full the fruits of his labors. He is a progressive citizen, supporting all movements that in his estimation will build up the county and promote the general well being of the people.

**HARRY E. LYMAN.**—Of the energetic and ambitious men who have sought opportunities in San Luis Obispo, none have done more to promote the general welfare of the city than Harry E. Lyman, one of the leading contractors and builders. He was born in Reno, Nev., August 3, 1878, a son of Albert E. and Laura (Rugg) Lyman, natives respectively of Montpelier, Vt., and Canada. The year 1853 marked the date of the arrival, via Panama, of Albert E. Lyman in San Francisco, with his entire capital of ten cents, but with a willingness to undertake any honest employment to defray immediate expenses, and to carve for himself a name among California pioneers. He was a cabinet maker by trade, and as nearly everyone was going to the mines to hunt for gold, he engaged in building cabins for the miners, and later ran a sawmill in the Sierras for a time. In 1865, he went to Reno, Nev., and entered the employ of the Central Pacific Railway as an engineer, and hauled the first load of lumber that was used to build the snowsheds. He remained in the employ of the company for twenty-three years, running an engine from Sacramento to Reno nearly all of that time. In 1888, he came to San Luis Obispo County, purchased a ranch of one hundred twenty-three acres near the city of San Luis Obispo and engaged in raising hay, grain and fruit; and on this ranch, in March, 1901, he died, survived by his three children: the subject of this review; and Mrs. Edith M.

Clevenger. Another son, Frank G. Lyman, is deceased. Albert Lyman was an Odd Fellow for forty-five years, a charter member of Truckee Lodge, and one of the original members of the B. of L. E. of the state.

Harry E. Lyman was educated in the public schools of Nevada and California, and when nine years of age was brought to San Luis Obispo County, and was reared on the farm until 1900, when he decided to enter the employ of the railroad and went to work in the engine department of the machine shops at Wadsworth, Nev., where he stayed eighteen months. At the time of his father's death he came back to his old home town, and for two years was firing an engine on the Southern Pacific.

In 1903, he went to work at the carpenter's trade in San Luis Obispo, and continued as a journeyman until 1908, when he began taking contracts on his own account. He has met with deserved success and has erected many fine homes, pretty bungalows and substantial business blocks in the city, among which mention may be made of the residences of F. J. Rodriguez, S. Spencer, E. Elberg, E. Vollmer, C. H. Kamm, E. Freeman, and Anita Hathway. He also erected the Carissa building, the San Luis and G. W. McCabe garages, and many smaller houses, cottages and barns throughout the county. So satisfactorily does he fulfil his contracts that many of his patrons do not seek bids from other contractors. In his planing mill in the rear of his home, he prepares all the furnishings for his contracts.

While Mr. Lyman has given his time to the contracting business, he has not neglected the duties of a citizen and has supported every movement considered by him of importance for the general welfare of the city and county. Some years ago he married Miss Maggie Sresovich, a native of Lompoc, Santa Barbara county, and they have two children, Mabel and Elmer. Mr. Lyman is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**STANLEY L. NICHOLS.**—In these United States it is a matter of pride that a large number of the best and most prominent citizens in different walks of life have risen to distinction solely through their own efforts. A notable instance of the sterling worth which overcomes obstacles and creates its own opportunities is presented in the career of Stanley L. Nichols, now living retired in San Luis Obispo.

He was born near Rochester, N. Y., June 16, 1837, and there he resided until eighteen years of age, attending the public school and working on the home farm. In 1855 the family moved to Adrian, Mich. In 1862 he enlisted for service in the Civil War, joining Company F, Michigan Cavalry, under Colonel R. J. Minty. The company proceeded to Louisville, Ky., and was attached to the Army of the Cumberland and took part in many important battles, including those of Chattanooga and Chickamauga, with its three days of bloody fighting; and it is worthy of mention that his regiment fired the first shot in the last-named contest. He was also in the Battle of Atlanta.

Later his regiment was under General Wilson in the Battle of Selma, where 3,000 prisoners were taken within three days. Mr. Nichols was on the spot and took part in the capture of "Jeff Davis," and heard the soldiers sing the famous song, "We'll hang Jeff Davis to the sour apple tree." He was mustered out at Nashville, Tenn., August 9, 1865. He had three brothers in the same company with him, and they all came out uninjured.

After the war, Mr. Nichols farmed for many years near Lansing and Mason, Mich. In 1889 he arrived in California and settled in San Luis Obispo.

where for eight years he was in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad, and for a time followed the trade of carpenter. In 1866 he was united in marriage with Ellen E. Harrison, a native of Michigan, and they have two children: Almon, of Fresno, who has a son, Robert; and Mrs. Ardie Leona Tajes, of Santa Barbara, who has two children, Leona and Leslie. Mrs. Nichols died in July, 1915. Mr. Nichols is a member of Fred Steele Post No. 70, G. A. R., in which he is acting adjutant.

**OTTO WYSS.**—No one will ever discount the enormous debt of California to German ability and culture, least of all those who have met and come to know genial Otto Wyss, the pioneer of Klau, who was so long postmaster there, and for years was Justice of the Peace, until he refused longer to serve in that honorable capacity. All the homely virtues of the Germans, so long extolled by those who have lived in the comfortable old Fatherland, are reflected in this scientifically trained but easy-going Teuton, and it is little wonder that Otto's capital begins with his friends.

Born at Otelfingen, Zurich, in Switzerland, on November 10, 1846, he came of parents now dead, but who in their lifetime enjoyed high social standing. His father was Dr. John V. Wyss, a practicing physician, and his mother, before her marriage, was Frl. Anna Schneebeli, a native of his home district. He himself was the fourth of six children, and the only one to come to California. He began with the primary school of his district, then attended the secondary school at Regensdorf, and next entered the Zurich Technological Academy. Following the death of his mother, he went to England, having finished his course as a machinist in Paris. In the British Isles he spent a year in study at Manchester, taking practical work in one of the leading machine shops; and in the fall of 1871 he came to the United States. He was unfortunate, however, in being unable to obtain employment in the field in which he had been drilled; and this led to his turning to dairying work in New Jersey.

On the first of January, 1872, he crossed the continent and reached San Francisco, where again he took up dairying; and having an acquaintance in the person of Ernest Von Jensen, who was later superintendent of the Mahoney mine in Adelaida mining district, he was encouraged to make for him some drawings, and in that way secured employment which brought him to San Luis Obispo County. In April, 1875, he became engineer at the Mahoney mine; and while helping to repair the tools, he kept the books at night and made new drawings of the shafts and tunnels. There he remained until the mine shut down in 1877, although he was left in charge of the property and still has charge of the mine. He then located his present homestead of a hundred sixty acres adjoining the mine, which he improved and added to—acquired eighty acres more, and later by purchase, until he now has four hundred acres.

For a long time, or until the post office, about 1879, was moved farther up, Otto Wyss was postmaster of Adelaida; and when Mr. Klau, who owned the Klau mine at the place named after him, and who was postmaster there, gave up his position, Wyss was appointed postmaster in his stead. At San Francisco Mr. Wyss had married Miss Emily Meier, a native of Switzerland, whom he had known in the Old World. When she died in 1888, he gave up his store and retained only the post office. Finally, he resigned his position as

Postmaster, and Mrs. Pauline Dodd, was appointed in his place.



*Otto Wyss*



Six children were born of his first marriage: Emily, now Mrs. Van Horn, of this vicinity; Alice, Mrs. Witcosky, of San Luis Obispo; Otto, Oscar and Henry, all of whom died of diphtheria within three days; and Anna, who died in infancy. In 1889, Mrs. Wyss was married a second time, to Miss Selina Streul, also a native of Switzerland, and by her he has had four children, three of whom are still living. Miss Selina is a Red Cross nurse in Los Angeles; Miss Mattie is bookkeeper for the Salinas Valley Lumber Co., at San Miguel; and Pauline, now Mrs. Dodd, is at home, her chief responsibility being the postmastership. Her husband, by the way, is J. E. Dodd, who operates the Wyss ranch of four hundred acres, which is well stocked, and is devoted to raising hay and grain. Mr. Wyss owns a dairy, usually milking from eighteen to twenty cows.

A Democrat in politics, Mr. Wyss has stood high in the councils of his party; and as has been remarked, he has long served the community in the bothersome office of Justice of the Peace. He is a genial neighbor, and as a citizen has for many years been conspicuous for his liberality, hospitality and large-hearted public spirit.

**JOHN PETERSEN.**—To the hardy pioneers who braved innumerable dangers and suffered indescribable hardships that they might make the pathway of their children smoother than they found it themselves, this country is indebted in a way that should in some manner be recognized. Among these pioneers, John Petersen, late of San Luis Obispo, is a worthy representative. He was born in Denmark, February 28, 1839. When a boy he went to sea, following it until he rounded Cape Horn and arrived in California, in 1858. Then he ran away from his ship, became a landsman, and was willing to accept any honest employment that came to his attention. Going to Alameda, he was employed in a warehouse for some time; and later removing to Watsonville, he engaged in ranching, raising beans and grain for about ten years, and meeting with fair results.

He next spent three years in the vicinity of Salinas. In 1876 he came to San Luis Obispo County, where he purchased one hundred fifty acres of land in the Los Osos valley, which is still known by his family as the home ranch. He acquired and improved other properties until he owned four hundred acres. He engaged in the dairy business and did general farming. He was strictly a self-made man, for he started in as a poor boy and by the time when he passed away, November 30, 1906, he had become one of the wealthy men of the county, and one who held the respect of everyone with whom he came in contact. By all his business associates his word was as good as his bond.

In Watsonville, in 1869, occurred the marriage of John Petersen and Miss Frances Elizabeth Petersen, daughter of Lewis H. and Elizabeth (Goad) Petersen, natives, respectively, of Denmark and Alsace, Germany. Lewis H. Petersen followed the sea for many years and made his first trip to California in 1836. He was engaged in trading with the Indians, took part in the Mexican War and became familiar with conditions existing in the western country. During the Mexican War he served in a Tennessee cavalry regiment. He went back to New Orleans, where he married, and going to Missouri, farmed until 1853, when he outfitted with provisions, supplies and ox teams and prairie schooners, and started on the long and dangerous trip back across the plains to the wonderful state of California.

Leaving St. Louis, Mo., in 1853, they began the long journey which, ere it had reached its end, was one never to be forgotten by members of the party. The discomforts were many, more especially to the brave wife and mother, who gave birth to twin sons while the party were near Salt Lake. The next winter they arrived in California and stopped in the bay section until 1855 when they settled near Winters, Yolo county, where Mr. Petersen took up government land. In 1862 they went to Watsonville, and here he engaged in general farming until 1883, when he came to San Luis Obispo County, where he died, having met with well-merited success during his lifetime.

To John and Frances Petersen the following children were born: Mrs. Anna Miller, of Stratford; Peter, of Vallejo; Mrs. Ella Montague, of Los Angeles; Lewis H., of Modesto; Mrs. E. M. Payne, of San Luis Obispo; John, of Los Angeles; Mrs. May Murphy, of San Francisco; Mrs. Edith O'Sullivan, a graduate of the University of California and now a public school teacher in Manila; and Henry, in the garage business with his brother, in Modesto. Altogether there are fourteen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren in the family. Mr. Petersen was a stanch Republican, but never an office-seeker.

**MICHAEL AND CARLOS SERRANO.**—It is a far cry to the days when swarming Indians and a handful of padres were the only residents of California, but there are still a few sons and daughters of those hardy and adventurous spirits who braved every danger and made trips of exploration into the then wilderness of California. The first visit made by Michael Serrano, a native of New Mexico, was in 1816. Just one hundred years ago he crossed the country on horseback and went as far north as San Francisco bay, one of the first to visit that place, which was known only to Mission history. He returned to New Mexico; but twelve years later the longing for the West again came over him, and in 1828 he made his second trip and thereafter remained in California territory. He rode the ranges as a cowboy, later coming to San Luis Obispo County when the only persons here were Indians and a few priests at the Mission.

He married here Prudence Quintana, whose father, Stephen Quintana, came to San Luis Obispo County in the very early days, and was a large cattle and sheep raiser. He acquired two thousand acres of land near what is now Serrano Station. He died in 1880. The ranch was managed by Michael Serrano for many years, and was known as the Potrero ranch. He had about five hundred mules and thousands of cattle and sheep. Michael Serrano died on December 23, 1899, aged ninety-six. Their children were Mrs. Antonio Munoz, Mrs. Jennie Stanley, Mrs. R. Williams, Hippolyte, and Carlos.

Carlos Serrano, the youngest of the five children born to his parents, was born in San Luis Obispo, March 31, 1872. He attended school until twelve years of age, then began herding sheep for his father, and later worked for wages; and he rode the range as a cowboy and did teaming until he was twenty-one. He then engaged in business on his own account, buying and selling cattle and horses. He also dealt in real estate, purchasing small ranches, improving them, and selling them to advantage, and has become well informed on land values. He owns a dairy and cattle ranch on San Bernardo creek. Mr. Serrano spent many years in the saddle, and became an expert and fearless rider. He married Miss Cleo Quintana, a native of New Mexico, and they have two children, Peter and Frances.

**P. A. H. ARATA.**—A direct descendant of an old Spanish family, and himself a native son of California, P. A. H. Arata is recognized as one of the leading real estate dealers in San Luis Obispo. He was born in Santa Barbara county, January 26, 1868, a son of Juan and Maria A. (Jimeno) Arata. Juan Arata, a man of fine education and business ability, was born in Spain. He came to California in 1849 and became a merchant in Monterey. Later settling in Santa Barbara, he was prominently identified with the public affairs of both city and county, serving as city treasurer of Santa Barbara and as treasurer of the county. He was also an extensive cattle and sheep raiser, and had a wide acquaintance throughout the central coast section. His wife was a daughter of Manuel Jimeno, one time acting governor of California under Mexican rule, and a very prominent and highly educated man. He married into the family of Jose de la Guerra, a very prominent military man who was born in Santander, Spain, in 1776, and whose coat-of-arms carries their record back to the Moors. Jose de la Guerra was appointed ensign and left Spain to join his company at Monterey, California. He rose gradually until, in 1810, he was General to the Vice-Royal Government in Mexico. In 1811 he was commander of the troops at San Diego, and in 1817 was appointed Captain and Comandante of troops at Santa Barbara. In 1804 he married Doña Maria Antonia Carillo, daughter of Raymundo Carillo, then comandante of the presidio at Santa Barbara. In fact, in reading the state history the names of Spanish and Mexican men who took an active part in governmental affairs from an early period to the time of the American occupation are interwoven with names that are traced to Mr. Arata's maternal forefathers, all of whom have long since passed away.

Mr. Arata was educated in the schools of Santa Barbara, and became especially proficient in bookkeeping. At an early age he displayed a fondness for politics, and served in various capacities. He was deputy assessor under Charles O. King, has been a member of the Democratic county central committee for years, and was chairman and also secretary. For three years he served as a member of the city council of San Luis Obispo, and installed a system of accounting, in connection with the city government, which gives any taxpayer, at a glance, a complete insight into the city's financial affairs. For over ten years, too, he has been a director of the local Chamber of Commerce, and has been always active in all movements coming before the Chamber that have had for their object the betterment of conditions in the city or county.

Prominent in fraternal circles, Mr. Arata is a member and Past Exalted Ruler of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. Elks; is Past Chancellor Commander of the Knights of Pythias; and a member and past president of the Native Sons of the Golden West. He is a certified accountant, and has followed his vocation in San Luis Obispo for a number of years. In 1906 Mr. Arata embarked in the real estate business and has met with the best of success. With W. C. H. Dibble, he is interested in mining, their holdings being in San Luis Obispo County, and from these gratifying results have been obtained.

Mr. Arata has been twice married. His first wife was Miss Ida Wickenden, a daughter of Frederick Wickenden, a pioneer of California and now a resident of Sisquoc, Santa Barbara county, who, at over ninety years of age, is hale and hearty. Two children were born of this union: Helen E.,



a student in the University of California at Berkeley; and Winfield H., who is attending Stanford University. Mrs. Ida Arata passed away in 1899. His second marriage united Mr. Arata with Miss Grace Richardson, a lady of culture and refinement, who was born in Oregon of eastern parents. Mr. Arata is an affable and popular citizen, and a firm believer in the possibilities of this county, where he has made many friends and a financial success. He has many matters occupying his time and attention, but is never too busy to join with others in promoting the best interests of the people and of the county and state.

**THOMAS STEVENS.**—Social life, including the almost numberless departments of the business world, has become so confusingly complex that the modern man is apt to forget the very important place once occupied by the all-around merchant, and indeed the important participation by him in the great machinery of affairs today. A splendid representative of the old school of merchants, who remained, however, decidedly up-to-date with his latest contemporaries, was Thomas Stevens, long prominent in Paso Robles business and social circles, but who was denied, through broken health brought on by overwork, the full enjoyment of a success he had certainly earned. It was in the comfortable and rather fashionable old spa-town of Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, England, that Mr. Stevens was born on December 23, 1865, the second youngest of six children and the son of William Stevens, an engraver who owned "The Rockery," a large country home, and who once visited Mr. Stevens at Paso Robles. His mother was Miss Emily Page, before her marriage; and he had a brother, Major William Stevens of the English army. Thomas was educated at Corpus Christi, a preparatory school for Eaton, and one of the thorough schools of his native country, after which he decided to come to the United States, it having been his ambition and desire from a lad.

In 1883 he left England and came to Nebraska, where he remained for two years, after which he made a six months' visit to his native place. About 1886, he arrived in California, and soon entered on a mercantile career at Sacramento with the firm of Weinstock, Lubin & Co. His health failing after several years, he was advised to remove nearer the coast, and this led him to come to Oakland, where he changed to the lively business in order to get outdoor work, later taking up mercantile life with Abrahamson Bros.; but after three years he sold his interests on the Bay and removed to Paso Robles, and there he was employed by Herman Eppinger, an old-time merchant. In time he became Eppinger's local manager, resigning only when George Bell offered him greater inducements. A still larger increase of salary drew him back to Eppinger, but once more he was with Bell at the head of his dry-goods department. In 1903, he formed the well-known partnership with Mr. Shimmin and helped to start the mercantile concern at Twelfth and Spring streets. Phenomenal success attended the partners' efforts, and the "Emporium" became quite famous, so that the returns justified the rebuilding and enlarging of their store. The firm also started a branch establishment at Shandon; and they became the owners and operators of several ranches.

Continued application to business and overwork once more told on this energetic man, and in July, 1914, he was stricken ill with such serious phases that he was compelled to give up active supervision. The following No-



yours very truly  
Thomas Stevens



vember, when the Shandon store had been disposed of, they also sold the Emporium in Paso Robles, and soon thereafter Mr. Stevens removed to San Leandro, Alameda county, where, in March, 1915, he purchased a small farm, gaining recreation in outdoor work until the following spring, when, in May, he suffered a second stroke. He then built a handsome residence at Berkeley; and in this quiet retreat he was living when, on October 29, of that year, he died.

As far back as October 26, 1893, Mr. Stevens was married at Paso Robles to Miss Grace Stanage, a native of Lafayette, Contra Costa county, and the daughter of Hiram McCarty Stanage. Her father was born at West Liberty, Ohio, on April 28, 1832; he was left an orphan and became a farmer. About 1853, he crossed the plains in an ox train and settled as a farmer in Contra Costa, in time marrying Miss Luthera Hodges, a native of Wisconsin, and a daughter of the New Yorker, David Hodges, who brought his family from Wisconsin to California, dying on the Coast on September 6, 1890, at the age of fifty-eight, from injuries received in a runaway.

The youngest of five children, Mrs. Stevens was educated at the public schools in Contra Costa County and in Oakland. She has two daughters: Miriam, a graduate of the California Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo, who is now Mrs. Hall Bither, of Berkeley, and the mother of a promising child, Thomas Stevens, named for its grandfather, and the idol of Mrs. Stevens' heart; and Bernice, a graduate of the Paso Robles high school, who is now the wife of Dr. John A. Lesoine of Oakland.

In politics, Mr. Stevens was a Progressive Republican. He was very active in public enterprises, and was a stockholder in the Citizens Bank of Paso Robles, and a member of the Chamber of Commerce at that place. Fraternally, he was a member of the Odd Fellows and of the Independent Order of Foresters. Mr. Stevens was an Episcopalian, and a liberal contributor to benevolent enterprises. Mrs. Stevens attends the College Avenue Methodist Church at Berkeley.

**GOTTLIEB W. KIRCHNER.**—The changing vicissitudes of life brought the late Mr. Kirchner into close touch with various localities before, in 1911, he established his home in San Luis Obispo County. He was born in Saxony, Germany, May 2, 1839. His parents died when he was a child, and he was reared under the guidance of a brother and sister and came with them, in 1853, to the United States. They settled in the woods in Adams county, Ind., cleared the land and began to farm. Here he was reared to manhood among pioneer conditions when wild game abounded in that section, and for the first seven years received one hundred twenty-five dollars as payment of wages for his labor. It was hard work clearing the timber from the land, Indians were numerous and not any too friendly, and the settlers were always armed.

At the breaking out of the war, he was fired with enthusiasm to defend his country's honor and flag, and enlisted, December 17, 1861, in the Eleventh Indiana Battery, Captain Sutermeister, and was assigned to the First Brigade, Third Division, of Sheridan's Twentieth Army Corps, in the Army of the Cumberland. During his term of service he participated in many battles and skirmishes, among which may be mentioned four weeks' bombardment of Atlanta, the battles of Corinth, Nashville, Murfreesboro, Franklin, Tullahoma, Chickamauga, Lookout Mountain, Mission Ridge, Tunnell Hill, Buz-

zard's Roost, Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Marietta and Jonesboro. He served under Generals Sheridan, Buell, Lytle and McCook, and was wounded at Pittsburg Landing and Chickamauga. Mr. Kirchner was cannoneer of his battery, and his family have in their possession a letter of recommendation stating his faithful services and gallantry in battle, signed by his captain and officers of his company, dated March 1, 1865. The state of Indiana erected a monument at Lytle Hill for the Eleventh Battery, in honor of General Lytle, who was killed there.

The war over, Mr. Kirchner was honorably discharged, and returning home was engaged with Congressman A. P. Edgerton for five years, receiving one dollar per day and his board. In the meantime he bought and cleared some land and later undertook farming for a time. He was employed at a subsequent date by Captain Sutermeister in the stone and marble works at Fort Wayne. Fifteen years were spent as salesman for the A. D. Prentiff Hardware Company of Fort Wayne, and he served as a letter carrier in the postoffice at Fort Wayne for five years, under Postmaster Kyle. After finishing his work there, he was made caretaker of Cedar Park at Fort Wayne and remained in that position until he came to San Luis Obispo, in 1911. Mr. Kirchner came from a family of landscape gardeners, and he has worked at that trade occasionally. He always had employment from the time he left the army, and never was forced to be idle.

Mr. Kirchner was twice married. His first wife was Caroline Waisbrod, to whom he was married in Indiana, and by whom he had three children, William G., Mary E., and Mrs. Kate Hetcher, all living in Indiana. His second wife was Mary Spigal, a native of Indiana, by whom he had a son, Gustav E., who studied for the ministry in Fort Wayne and St. Louis colleges, and is now the popular pastor of the Lutheran Church in San Luis Obispo.

In the month of June, 1917, Gottlieb W. Kirchner passed to his reward; and his burial took place in Mountain View Cemetery, Oakland, Cal. Mr. Kirchner was a charter member of Fort Wayne Post, G. A. R., and later joined the Union Veteran League. He was a member of Fred Steele Post, No. 70, G. A. R., of San Luis Obispo.

**ALONZO H. SEEBER.**—Various industries engage the attention of the residents of San Luis Obispo County, many of whom have been called to this part of the United States on account of advantages of climate and business possibilities. Among these citizens who have made their influence felt since casting in their lot with the Golden State is Alonzo H. Seeber. He was born in Jefferson county, New York, August 13, 1842, a son of William and Ann Eliza Seeber, both natives of that state and farmers by occupation.

Mr. Seeber followed farming until he was seventeen years of age, attending the public schools as conditions permitted. He learned the trade of carpenter in Brownville and Dexter, N. Y., and when the Civil War broke out, enlisted, August 7, 1862, in Company I, Tenth New York Heavy Artillery, Sixth Army Corps, and served with valor until his discharge, June 25, 1865. He saw service under Colonel Place and General Burnside, in the Army of the Potomac, for the first eighteen months, doing guard duty in the line of forts near Washington, D. C., on the Maryland side. He was under fire in the trenches five months at the siege of Petersburg, took part in the Battle of Cold Harbor and in many skirmishes, and had many narrow and thrilling escapes during his three years of service.

Mr. Seeber had one brother, Nelson, who enlisted December 26, 1863, in Company I, Tenth New York Heavy Artillery, and served until the close of the war; also three uncles, Frank, George H., and Walter Seeber, all also in Company I. George H. died of disease in 1862, but the others came out unscathed. Two uncles on the maternal side, William P. Groat and Harrison Groat, were in the same company, Company I, Tenth New York Heavy Artillery; and one uncle on the father's side, Robert R. Bell, was first lieutenant of the same company. All of these men lived to be old men.

After the war was over, Mr. Seeber went back to his trade of carpenter at Dexter, N. Y., and later located in Philadelphia, that same state, where he engaged in contracting and building, erecting many fine dwellings. For a number of years he even did his own manufacturing of interior furnishings. Later he removed to Carthage, N. Y., and for six years was employed in a chair factory. At the end of that time, in 1911, he came to San Luis Obispo, Cal., where he has lived practically retired from active pursuits.

While a resident of New York state, January 1, 1866, Mr. Seeber married Miss Caroline Remore, a native New Yorker and daughter of Peter and Mercy (Lasher) Remore, both born and raised in the Empire State. Her father fought in the War of 1812, and was orderly to General Brown. He was in the battle of Sacket's Harbor, on Lake Ontario. Her grandfather Remore saw military service in the Revolutionary War. To Mr. and Mrs. Seeber two children were born. W. Fred, a rancher located near the tank farm, is married and has three children, Gaylord R., Laurence F., and Doris M. A daughter, Anna Belle, married F. H. Cooper; she died, leaving one son, Herbert O.

Mr. Seeber was a charter member of the Dexter, N. Y., Post, G. A. R., and passed through the various offices therein. He is now a member of Fred Steele Post, No. 70, G. A. R., of San Luis Obispo. He and his wife always have been workers in the cause of temperance. Both Mr. and Mrs. Seeber have grown old gracefully, and have seen the bright as well as the dark side of life.

**JESSE E. LEWIS.**—The efficient superintendent of the county hospital of San Luis Obispo County, Jesse E. Lewis, has given many years of public service. From 1885 until 1896 he was superintendent of the institution of which he is now the head; then he served for eight years as city treasurer of San Luis Obispo; and in 1909 he was again appointed superintendent of the county hospital. His administration is marked by efficiency, and merits the commendation of the public regardless of party affiliations. He was born near Cedar Mountain in the vicinity of Salt Lake City, Utah, June 5, 1854, a son of Jesse B. Lewis, a California pioneer of the early fifties. The father was a blacksmith, and followed his trade in San Bernardino until 1862, when he came to San Luis Obispo County and was employed by Dick Byer. Later he leased the Pico ranch near San Simeon; and soon after, in 1863, he moved to Bakersfield.

Jesse E. Lewis lived near San Simeon until 1864, and then in Morro, and attended the public schools of these places. In 1871 he began working for J. H. Hollister on the Chorro ranch, and for eleven years remained at that place. In 1883 he moved to San Luis Obispo, where he has since resided. He engaged first in the livery business, and later in real estate and insurance. For a time he was employed on the Tribune, then a weekly, conducted by Myron Angel and Charles Maxwell. He was then appointed to his present

position; and during his terms of service he has won a place for himself in the hearts of the citizens of the county by his efficient discharge of every duty that has been laid upon him.

He married into one of the pioneer families of the county, his wife being Miss Celestia Osgood, daughter of Henry M. Osgood, one of the pioneer ranchers of the Arroyo Grande section and a jeweler in San Luis Obispo for years. They became the parents of two children, Elmer M., who married Agnes McCarran, and Jessie M., the wife of George Crawford, both residents of San Luis Obispo.

Mr. Lewis is prominent in fraternal circles, being a member of the Lodge, Chapter and Commandery in Masonry; a Past Grand of the local lodge of Odd Fellows; a member, since 1877, of Park Lodge, No. 40, Knights of Pythias; and a member of the B. P. O. Elks. He is public-spirited, and is a supporter of all movements that upbuild the county of his adoption and promote the welfare of its citizens.

**RICHARD H. DANA.**—A descendant of one of the early families long famous for its great landholdings, and for its part in laying the foundations of the great state of California, Richard H. Dana is a successful ranchman residing on the John Carr place. His great-grandfather was William Dana, who was born in 1767, married a Miss Davis, a daughter of an artillery officer in the American Revolution, and died at the end of the century, a little past thirty years of age. His grandfather was Captain William Goodwin Dana, whose life began in 1797, and who, at the age of eighteen, was sent by his uncle, a merchant, to Canton, China, for two years, and after that to Calcutta and the Sandwich Islands. So successful was he in his mission that in 1820 he opened a good-sized branch house in Oahu, erecting a warehouse on the island; and this venture led him, as captain of a sailing ship, to run back and forth between California and Honolulu, and to the South American coast.

About 1825, Captain Dana settled at Santa Barbara and there built a schooner, declared to have been the first seaworthy craft ever committed to the waters of the Pacific. Ten years later, as a naturalized citizen of the Mexican Republic, he was granted the Nipomo Rancho, a superb tract of 37,000 acres. In the meantime, at Santa Barbara, on August 10, 1828, he married Miss Maria Josefa Carillo, the eldest daughter of Don Carlos Antonio Carillo, governor of Alta California; and by this estimable woman he had twenty-one children. Some of those who latest survived are William C., Charles W., John F., Henry Carillo, Ramon H., Francis, Edward Goodwin, Adeline Eliza, Frederick A., David A., Elizabeth C., and Sarah A. Dana.

Frederick A. Dana was the father of the subject of our sketch, and was born on June 12, 1849, dying in 1900. His wife was Miss Manuela Munoz, a native of San Luis Obispo, and she is still living at Nipomo, honored by all who have the good fortune to know her. Thirteen children were born to Frederick and Manuela Dana; and seven are still alive.

Educated at the Nipomo public school, Richard Dana worked out on neighboring ranches, and then was employed in the oil fields at Orcutt, in the Santa Maria valley, and the California Cañon and elsewhere, becoming in time an expert tool dresser; but when the opportunity presented itself, he took up ranching, which he likes much better and in which, assisted by his brother, Gerard S. Dana, he is making a pronounced success. He rents forty-five acres of the John Carr farm, where he lives, and another forty-







Mr. & Mrs. H. B. Smith.

five acres of A. F. Careaga, and thirty acres of the U. S. Careaga estate. He plants the one hundred twenty acres largely to beans, though devoting some of the land to hay. Both brothers are deservedly popular, and few young men in or near Los Alamos give greater promise than Richard H. Dana.

**HENRY B. SMITH.**—During his long connection with the vicinity of Paso Robles, Henry B. Smith has been associated with many enterprises for the benefit and advancement of the general welfare. He was born July 9, 1841, in Carey, Wyandot county, O., a son of William, and grandson of Eri Smith, the latter a native of Connecticut and a farmer by occupation, who had served in the Revolutionary War. He moved to Sacketts Harbor, N. Y., where he died. He married Phoebe Mills. William Smith walked all the way to Wyandot county, bought land at Elyria and got started, and then went back to New York state and married Lucy Turner. The grandfather, Samuel Turner, was born in New York, was a shoemaker by trade, and also served in the Revolutionary War. The father, William Smith, served in the War of 1812, and when the Battle of Sacketts Harbor was fought, was seventeen years old. He farmed at Elyria, O., later moved to Carey, and was accidentally drowned in 1849. His widow moved to Nebraska, where she died in 1884.

Henry B. Smith is the ninth in order of birth in a family of eleven children, three of whom are now living. A brother, Daniel Smith, served in the Civil War, in the 106th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Henry B. Smith was reared on the farm at Carey until he was twelve years of age. Then he went with his parents to Princeton, Bureau county, Ill., helped improve the farm near there, attended the public school, and studied at Lombard University at Galesburg. He taught school for eleven winters, working on the farm in summer. When able, he purchased a place on the edge of Lee county, north of Princeton. He became prominent in that section, and served as supervisor of his township and as justice of the peace. In 1874, he removed to Thayer county, Neb., bought land one mile from Carlton and improved it, and successfully engaged in farming his three hundred twenty acres. While there, he also served a term as justice of the peace.

In 1885, we find Mr. Smith in California, where he purchased land in San Luis Obispo County near Creston, and devoted his three hundred six acres to grain and stock-raising, specializing in hogs. In 1892, he sold out at a good profit and purchased his present place of thirty-five acres on the Adelaida road, three miles from Paso Robles. He cleared it of brush and trees, for it was raw land and had never been cultivated, and set out walnut trees, forty feet apart. He now has seventy large trees, from which he has had seventy sacks of nuts. His almonds, peaches, cherries and nectarines have never missed yielding a very satisfactory crop. He erected his residence and other buildings on the place and has a very comfortable ranch home, accessible to market and schools. Since coming to this state and settling in San Luis Obispo County, Mr. Smith has taken an active interest in the maintenance of good schools, has served as trustee of the Creston school for several years and was clerk of the board, and has again served as justice of the peace. He is a self-made man in every sense of the word, optimistic and of a humorous vein, always seeing the pleasant side of things as they happen. He has done his share in pioneering in the various places in which he has lived, and has taken a very active interest in the upbuilding of each

section. In politics he is a Republican on national issues, while in local matters he selects the man, regardless of party lines, best qualified, in his judgment, for the office.

Mr. Smith was united in marriage in Illinois with Miss Emma Stone, a native of New York. To them were born nine children, five of whom grew to maturity. Bertha is Mrs. Dodson of Palo Alto; Clark S. is a prominent business man in Paso Robles; Fred is a business man in Palo Alto; Paul is a graduate, M. E., of Leland Stanford University, and a farmer on Estrella plains; Lillie is now Mrs. Corbaley of Palo Alto. Mrs. Emma Smith died in Nebraska. The second wife of Mr. Smith, to whom he was married in Illinois, was formerly Miss Elizabeth Nesmith, a native of Pittsburg, Pa.

**S. JACKSON LOWE.**—A worthy son of California and one of the progressive citizens of San Luis Obispo County, S. Jackson Lowe was born in Sonoma county, January 23, 1878. When he was a child of two years, his parents brought him to this county; and here he has remained ever since, carving a name for himself by his own efforts. He attended the grammar and high schools in San Luis Obispo until he was eighteen years old, and worked on his father's farm near town, whither they had removed from their first location near Morro, until the death of his parent in 1908. He was engaged in stock-raising and dairying and met with a fair degree of success.

After his father's death, Jackson Lowe and his brother took charge of the estate and carried on the business until the death of the brother, May 1, 1912; and after the settlement of the estate by Mr. Lowe he moved to his present place, which is known as the West Slope Ranch. This comprises 3,815 acres of land, where he engages in dairying and stock-raising with merited success. Besides his own property, he owns a half interest in the old home ranch, which he himself aided in improving to its present condition. On his ranch he has erected modern concrete barns and dairy houses, up-to-date in every detail. He has a herd of registered Shorthorn cattle, numbering thirty-eight, the largest herd in the county.

When he began breeding Shorthorns, he had but five cows. He added to this number from time to time by purchasing registered stock, males and females, from the East as well as from the best California herds, and he is well satisfied with the results of his investment. Besides caring for his registered cattle, he is quite extensively engaged in cattle raising, having about four hundred head of stock on the place, for which he has ample range. He is also raising from one hundred fifty to two hundred Duroc and Poland-China hogs annually. Mr. Lowe also raises grain and hay in sufficient quantities for his stock. West Slope Ranch adjoins Reservoir cañon, the site of San Luis Obispo's water supply, situated about three miles east of the city. The ranch is watered by Reservoir cañon, by the head waters of the west branch of Corral de Piedra creek, San Luis creek and numerous springs. It has been well named by Mr. Lowe, as it slopes westerly from the crest of the Santa Lucia range to the state highway and Reservoir cañon. Because of its abundant water supply and its rich fields, it is one of the best stock ranches in the county.

Mr. Lowe was united in marriage with Annie Jane Potter, who was born in San Luis Obispo County; and they have four children, Jack L., Edward D., Annie J., and George A. In political matters, Mr. Lowe supports the men whom he considers best qualified for public office, regardless of party lines.

He is a member of the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce, and is a liberal supporter of all public movements for the building up of the county; and by all with whom he comes in contact, either in business or in a social way, he is highly respected and honored.

**THOMAS FRANK FOXEN.** Thomas Frank Foxen, the popular and best-known representative today of what has been happily termed the pioneer of pioneer families in the vicinity of Los Alamos, is the son of William Domingo, formerly Benjamin Foxen, a native of Norwich, England, where he was born in 1798. When only a lad, Benjamin Foxen left Norwich and went forth to follow the life of an English mariner in the merchant service. He later became the first officer of a sailing ship, and navigated between many of the most distant ports and among the numerous islands of the Pacific. By the famous Captain Thompson, afterward a resident of Santa Barbara, he was advised to enter the shipping business; and coming to the Mission town about 1818, or soon thereafter, he entered into an engagement with Captain Noriega. In a short time he built the boat known as the "Goleta" (or schooner), from which circumstance Goleta, a town near by on the coast, was named. With that vessel, he carried on a coastwise trade between San Diego and San Francisco, dealing particularly in tallow and hides.

Benjamin Foxen was united in marriage with Señorita Eduarda Ozuna, who became the mother of eleven children. She outlived her husband, dying about twenty-three years ago at the hale old age of eighty. At his marriage, yielding to the custom of the Roman Catholic Church, which he now joined, Benjamin Foxen changed his name to William Domingo.

About 1832, Benjamin Foxen acquired some two leagues, or 8,800 acres, of land in a cañon called by the Indians Tinaquaic, and laid out a farm, since known as Foxen's ranch, from which the district has come to be named Foxen's Cañon. General John C. Fremont and his soldiers pitched their tents in the cañon for a couple of weeks, at the place known today as Fremont's Camp; and before Fremont left to take Santa Barbara, occurred those historic exchanges between the general and the rancher which have ever since made the name Foxen one of peculiar interest in American history. The Mexican government learned of General Fremont's plan to descend upon the city; and believing that the only pass by which he and his four hundred soldiers could travel would be the Gaviota, the native authorities enlisted all the men of military age to aid in the defense of the threatened city. This move Mr. Foxen found out; and convinced that Santa Barbara could never withstand the seasoned soldiers of the Pathfinder, and that much bloodshed might result if the two forces came into violent conflict, he led the Americans over the poor and almost unknown San Marcos trail, and thus enabled Fremont to enter Santa Barbara on Christmas Day while the good people were at mass, and to surprise the town. For that really humane act, Benjamin Foxen was long unforgiven; and yet it is claimed that General Fremont withheld the recognition due the sturdy pioneer. If that be true, it may be possible that the explanation for what is so unnatural to the famous American explorer is to be found in the fact that the second volume of his travels and conquests, the first part of which would deal with this period, was never published, or at least never reached the public.

Benjamin Foxen died on February 19, 1871. After his death, which his eleven children received eight hundred seven and a half acres of the estate.

These children are as follows: 1. John William, who married Stefana Ortega, was the father of nine children and is now deceased. 2. Martina married Dr. Freeman, of Santa Barbara, and became the mother of eight children. She is also deceased. 3. Ramona is the wife of Frederick Wickenden, both husband and wife being alive, with their eight children. 4. Francesca married Cecil Goodchild, an attorney at San Luis Obispo, now deceased; and there she lives with her six children. 5. Juana is the widow of Frederick Roth, and lives in Ventura with her six children. 6. Alexander Albert married Miss Adelaida Botiller, and five years after his marriage he died, the father of one child. 7. Marie Antoine married John Richard Stone, ex-sheriff of Ventura county, and later a farmer at the Foxen ranch. He died and left eight children. She was again married, this time to Joel Cooper, a lawyer of Santa Barbara, who died without children. She now lives in Los Angeles. 8. Frederick Romaldo married Miss Louisa Botiller, of Santa Barbara. He died and left eight children. The widow lives in Los Alamos. 9. Thomas Frank is the subject of this sketch. 10. John Charles, who resides in Watsonville, married Leonora Villa, and became the father of nine children. 11. Matilda married Leon Carteri, who lived at San Jose at the time when he died, the father of nine children. She married a second time, her husband being Lorenzo Marre, and now lives at Santa Barbara.

Thomas F. Foxen married the widow of his brother, Alexander Albert, whose maiden name, as has been stated, was Adelaida Botiller. She was born in Santa Barbara, a daughter of Thomas Botiller, one of the pioneer jewelers of Los Angeles, a gentleman of French descent, and Maria (Olivas) Botiller, whose mother was Clara Pico, a cousin of Pio Pico, and the daughter of Miguel Pico, the first administrator of Ventura county, and a very extensive landowner, numbering among his fine possessions the Simi rancho of eleven leagues, or 40,000 acres. Mrs. Foxen was educated at St. Vincent's School at Santa Barbara, being, like her husband, a devout Roman Catholic; and with Mr. Foxen she has taken her place as a leader in local social circles. Their marriage has been blessed with seven children. Gerald, the oldest, married Katherina McCartney, and is the father of four children. He is a paperhanger, painter and carpenter, residing at Los Alamos. Helen married Joe Sepulveda, ex-sheriff of Los Angeles county, and has one child. Annie is the wife of Joseph McCartney, a farmer at Santa Ynez. Leonard lives at Los Angeles. Clara married Leonard Simons and resides at Fresno. Margaret has remained at home. Edmund, who married Rebecca Rojas, is an employee of the Pan-American Petroleum Improvement Corporation.

Always responsive to the call of civic duty, Mr. Foxen has sought to advance the best interests of the community. In matters of national politics, he is a staunch and ardent Republican.

**HANS N. HANSEN.**—An example of what perseverance and industry can accomplish is demonstrated in the life of Hans N. Hansen, now living retired at 1190 Bushon street, San Luis Obispo. He was born on a farm in Denmark, July 3, 1846, was educated in the schools of his home place, and worked on the farm until he was twenty-one years of age. He then decided that he would make his way in the world by changing his location, and accordingly came to the United States, with California as his objective point. He came via Panama, being thirteen days on the water on the Atlantic, and eleven days on the Pacific; and arriving in San Francisco in 1868, he went

direct to Petaluma, where he secured employment for a time on a dairy ranch. He later removed to Tomales bay and there continued his occupation, meanwhile learning the English language and the dairy business. His next work was in Alameda county, in the harvest fields, and from there he went to Salinas, leased land in the valley and began farming on his own account. He made a success of his work, saved his money and branched out from time to time. In 1879 he came to San Luis Obispo County and rented a ranch near the town; and later he leased a part of the Murphy ranch near Santa Margarita, which he farmed for eleven years.

At the end of that time he had saved enough to purchase land of his own, and he accordingly bought three hundred sixty acres in the Morro district; and out of this property he has made one of the best ranches in the section. He developed water and has a fine system of distribution for irrigation. He has forty acres in alfalfa and keeps a herd of fifty high-grade Jersey cows, raising his own calves and thereby increasing his herd year by year. His barns are sanitary, and he separates the cream on the ranch and sells it to the creamery in San Luis Obispo. He is a sturdy type of a self-made man, for he came to the country a poor boy and by dint of perseverance he is now able to retire and enjoy his well-earned rest in the evening of his life.

In 1877, Mr. Hansen was married to Lena Petersen, a native of California, and they have four children. Nelson is married to Lillian Ghiringelli; John married Miss Gladys Gladstone and has one daughter; Elizabeth (married); Albert Nelson and has three sons; and Carrie is a teacher of music in San Luis Obispo.

**GEORGE F. DEISS.**—A leading citizen and prominent business man of San Luis Obispo, George F. Deiss was born in Germany, February 11, 1862, and arrived in this country at the age of nineteen years with no money or friends, and unable to speak the language of the country. He had only a limited education; but he was willing to work at any honest employment that was offered. He got as far west as Nebraska and there, in Thayer county, worked on a farm one year. He then went to St. Louis and learned the trade of baker, following it three years. He did not like that kind of work, and found an opportunity to learn the butcher's trade, and in that line he became engaged.

He worked in St. Louis until 1886, when he decided to come to California; and arriving in San Francisco, he worked at his trade there, and later also in Oakland. In July, 1890, he came to San Luis Obispo, where he at once found work in the butcher shop operated by L. Marre; and here he remained until December, 1892. He had saved enough from his earnings to embark in business on a small scale, and opened a shop on Higuera street. This small beginning meant hard work and long hours; but he could see that it also meant prosperity, for he began to build up a fine trade, which increased to such proportions that in 1899 he formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, J. B. Berkemeyer, under the firm name of Deiss & Berkemeyer, and they have continued together up to the present time. Their shop is located at 1019 Chorro street, and is known as the Fulton Market, being the market he worked in when he arrived here. They own and operate an up-to-date slaughter house west of the city, and kill all their own beef and hogs, averaging two cattle and eighteen head of hogs weekly. Their shop is modern in equipment and cleanliness is everywhere shown. Both partners

give their personal supervision to the conduct of the business, and hence have built up a splendid trade. Mr. Deiss is the owner of a block on Marsh street, and with his partner he is a one-half owner of a business block on Iliguera street.

Mr. Deiss is one of the most prominent Odd Fellows in the state. He is a member of the Lodge, Encampment, Canton and the Rebekahs. He has passed all the chairs of the order and several times served as a delegate to the Grand Encampment, and is a Past Grand of the Grand Lodge of the state. He was one of the organizers of the German Lutheran Church of San Luis Obispo and served as trustee many years, and for a time was secretary of the board. For ten years he was a member of the volunteer fire department, Hand Engine No. 3.

Mr. Deiss was united in marriage in St. Louis with Mary Berkemeyer, who, like himself, is a native of Germany. They have two sons: Henry G., born in 1886; and Clarence, born in 1897. Mrs. Deiss is a prominent worker in the local lodge of Rebekahs, and is active in various charitable organizations of the city. Some years ago Mr. and Mrs. Deiss took a trip back to their old home in Germany, and returned more than ever pleased with their California home. In business circles Mr. Deiss is highly respected, and wherever known he has a host of friends.

**EGBERT D. BRAY.**—One of the prominent builders of San Luis Obispo, and formerly of Santa Barbara county, Egbert D. Bray has had a varied experience and has won a name for himself. He was born in Crawford county, Mo., January 21, 1878, a son of Ferdinand and Anna E. (Patten) Bray, both natives of Missouri and now residents of Los Gatos, California, which place is also the home of their three married daughters, Mrs. Meta Estelle McGlashen, Mrs. Mary Finley and Mrs. Annie Mullen.

When seven years of age, Egbert was brought to California by his parents, his father thereafter for many years carrying on a blacksmith shop at Cambria. His school days over, Egbert D. Bray worked on dairy ranches milking cows, and later went to Los Angeles and learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed there and in Pasadena. He then became salesman for the Western Meat Company of San Jose, and held that position for three years. Coming then to Santa Barbara county he was in the employ of several of the leading butcher shops in Santa Maria as salesman.

Going back to his trade of carpentering, he began contracting, and for seven years carried on a fine business, erecting fifty-seven buildings, among which mention may be made of the Masonic Temple, Christian Church, four business blocks, and the residences of N. Porter, F. Martin, George Trott, L. P. Scaroni, P. W. Jones, Charles Smith, A. P. Silvaro, F. Whitmore, Dick Holland, Frank Silver, and many others.

In 1911, Mr. Bray came to San Luis Obispo and continued his business with success; and while here he has executed many contracts. Among the buildings erected by him are two houses for E. M. Merryfield; homes for John Norton, Frank Barcellos, E. M. Payne, Easton Mills, L. Defosset, and others; and the new Kamm Garage. It is needless to say that his work gives satisfaction to his many patrons, who depend upon him entirely for first-class results in every detail.

Mr. Bray was united in marriage with Bertie B. Barnett, a native of this county, who is active in the temperance cause and a writer of ability.

They have five children. Leola M. is employed by the Pacific States Telephone Company; Pauline and Edith M. are students in the high school; and Raymond and Edna attend the grammar school.

**KARL STEINER.**—Europe has contributed greatly to the population of this country and California has benefited by the migration of a portion of those people who have thought to better their condition financially by seeking the "far West" to make a home. Among these is Karl Steiner, who was born November 7, 1863, in Linden, Switzerland, of German-Swiss parents. His father, Christian Steiner, was a very prominent man in his county, a member of the school commission for many years, who also served as a county official and was postmaster of Linden. The grandfather of Karl was a man of high education and taught school in his native country for forty-five years, during which time thirteen different members of his own family went to school to him.

Karl was reared on a ranch, and after his school days were over he assisted his father for three years at farming, and then for a time was employed in the State Insane Asylum in Switzerland. He served for seven weeks in the Swiss army, after which he went to Haute-Saone, northern France, and for two years was employed in a dairy. In 1888, with his brother Christ, he came to America, settling with an uncle in Yutan, Neb., where he worked for two years on a farm, and learned considerable of the ways of the country. He then went to Omaha, Neb., working at various occupations for a time; and after that, with the money he had saved, he engaged in the dairy business for himself in Omaha.

His next move was to Pender, Neb., where, with his brother, he purchased two hundred seventy acres of land and farmed; but they had two bad years of drought and hailstorms, which destroyed their crops, and so they sold out and dissolved partnership. Karl leased a farm on an Indian reservation in that state, and farmed until he came to California, in 1901, and settled in San Luis Obispo County. With John Güdel as a partner, he here leased 1,600 acres of the Cole ranch and engaged in dairying and the stock business, and met with success. With the proceeds of his years of labor here, he purchased his present ranch of one hundred forty acres in the Independence district near Edna. He improved the land from its raw state, cleared some of it and planted a family orchard and other trees, also setting out roses and shrubbery, and now possesses a well-improved ranch and a comfortable home.

He is engaged in dairying, and in raising beans, grain and hay; and besides his home place he rents another tract of one hundred sixty acres near by in partnership with his oldest son Fritz, and this is devoted to grain and beans. At his home place, he has fitted up a fine tennis court which is a source of pleasure to the children, and to those of their friends who enjoy that sport.

Mr. Steiner married Anna Güdel, a native of Switzerland; and they are parents of six children: Mrs. Emma Rhigetti, Fritz, Clara, Marie, Lillian and Robert. They have two grandchildren to brighten the home circle, Fred and Harold Rhigetti. Mr. Steiner has served as clerk of the Independence school district since its organization. He and his family are members of the Lutheran Church.



**ISAAC S. VAN MATRE.**—Success is an indefinite, undefinable something for which many a man strives, and the attainment of which is supposed to give happiness to the lucky; but whatever reward is granted in return for the struggle, it is certain that no one enjoys reaching the goal more than such a pioneer as Isaac S. Van Matre, who, by his own hard labors, self-denial and consistent application to duty, has created all that he possesses.

Born in Hempstead county, Ark., December 20, 1844, Isaac was the son of Abraham J. Van Matre, a native of Illinois, who settled in Hempstead county, where he became both a merchant and a farmer. The elder Van Matre later removed to Red River county, Tex., where he was engaged as a stockman and a farmer, and in 1868 he came overland to California with the subject of our sketch. He homesteaded land in San Luis Rey valley, and later removed to Watsonville. There he was a merchant until he retired, and after that he lived with his son, Isaac, dying in 1911 at the age of eighty-seven. Many were the stirring memories of his life, and not the least those which carried him back to Civil War days and his service, for a year, in the cause of the Confederacy. Isaac Van Matre's mother was Melinda Clampit, a native of Tennessee, who died in 1868, in San Diego, the mother of four children, three of whom are living. Mr. Van Matre's maternal grandfather, Colonel Logan, served as an officer in the Revolutionary War.

The oldest child was Isaac, who was brought up in Arkansas until he was three years of age, when he went to Texas with his parents, and there attended the public school. He also learned to help farm, and while riding the range he got his first insight into the stock business, which engaged him for eight or ten years. In 1868, he crossed the plains with mule teams, making for San Diego just when the new town was started. There he helped haul lumber for the Horton House, and then he went to farming on the ranch in San Luis Rey valley. At the beginning of the eighties he came to Santa Barbara county; and finding attractive ranch work at Los Alamos, he farmed there for four years.

In 1884, Mr. Van Matre located in San Luis Obispo County, buying the ranch of two hundred fifty-eight acres, one mile from Creston, that he still owns. In addition to regular tilling of the soil, he took up stock-raising, and for many years ran a dairy in addition, milking from twenty to thirty of the finest Durham cattle. He shipped the cream to Los Angeles, and there soon won positive recognition for his farm products. Having also installed a pumping plant from the natural wells on his estate, he was able to raise alfalfa on a large scale. Not content with this important venture, he homesteaded a hundred sixty acres on the Carissa Plains, and later he bought three hundred twenty acres more. He now has four hundred eighty acres given to grain and stock, which he leases to his sons.

While in San Diego county, Isaac Van Matre was married on October 20, 1870, to Miss Permella J. Hickey, a native of Titus county, Tex., and by her he has had five children. Joseph is married to Sadie Barnes and has one child, Velma M.; Jennings married Barbara Glenn; Henry married Dosie Denny, and they have three children, Esther, Wesley and Virgil. The three above named sons are farming some four thousand acres, using caterpillar engines, on Carissa Plains. Mary, Mrs. Scott, lives at Porterville and has three children: Ida, Arline, Harvey and Henry. Leslie was married to Lucy, a daughter of San Francisco, who died at Creston on August



P. Van Meter Amelia Van Meter



23, 1916, leaving two children, Vincent and Margaret. Leslie is engaged in stock-raising on Carissa Plains.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Matre own and occupy a residence in Creston. Mrs. Van Matre's parents, Isaac and Melinda (Marshall) Hickey, were natives of Tennessee. They removed to Texas, where they resided until 1865, when they came by ox teams to California. Isaac Hickey was a minister of the Baptist Church for over forty-three years. He was a clear and forceful speaker, and was a conscientious Christian man who lived up to his teachings. They spent their last days in Creston, and died at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Van Matre, the father aged seventy-three, and the mother eighty-six years of age. Mrs. Van Matre is also descended from old Revolutionary stock. In politics, Mr. Van Matre is a Democrat. He has devoted much time and attention to school affairs as trustee for the San Juan district. Like his wife, he is an active participant in the religious life of the community, being a charter member of the Church of God in Paso Robles.

**JOHN F. CONKEY.**—Optimism is the keynote of the success achieved by John F. Conkey, lawyer, journalist, business man and postmaster of Santa Maria. Mr. Conkey was born in New York City, April 17, 1852, a son of Ithamar Conkey, a native of Massachusetts who went to New York and was married in Troy to Miss Elizabeth Billings, a native of Northumberland, Saratoga county. They became the parents of five children—two born in Troy and three in New York City.

Ithamar Conkey was a basso-profundo. He sang a duet with Jenny Lind, the Swedish Nightingale, at the Castle Garden concert under the auspices of P. T. Barnum in New York City. He was a professional bass singer, and for several years sang in Trinity Church, New York City. It was said of him that he had the best bass voice in New York City in his time. He could go down to B flat with ease, producing a full, round organ tone in that register.

Between professional work as a singer, and his duties as representative of the Metropolitan Fire Insurance Company as surveyor, he accumulated a competency. He surveyed nearly every building in Manhattan and established the rate of fire insurance, and was an authority on fire insurance rates. He became the owner of a farm at Roselle, N. J., and died at Elizabeth, in the same state, at the age of fifty-two.

The childhood, youth and young manhood of John F. Conkey were spent in much the same manner as were those of the average child of parents of moderate means in New York and New Jersey. He laid the foundation of his education in the grammar and high schools of New York City, and later took a course at the Peddy Military Institute at Hightstown, N. J. He clerked in dry goods and grocery stores in the city until 1876, and then began reading law at Saratoga Springs, where he was admitted to the bar in 1880. He followed the profession in the East until 1892. He then came to California, locating at San Jacinto, Riverside county, and continued his profession. He became a resident of Santa Barbara county in 1905, and settled in Santa Maria, where he opened an office and practiced law. He is a member of the bar of Santa Barbara county and has been admitted to practice in the United States Circuit Court.

While studying law in New York, Mr. Conkey added to his income by reporting for the Saratoga Eagle. The lure of journalism prompted him, in 1907, to buy the Graphic of Santa Maria, of which he was proprietor and

editor until June 8, 1916, when President Wilson appointed him postmaster of that city. He has always been an ardent Democrat, active in party affairs and a delegate to conventions. Mr. Conkey received the hearty endorsement of the citizens of the valley for his present position, and upon taking charge of the office instituted needed reforms for the systematic handling of its increasing business.

Mr. Conkey was married in 1874, Miss Blanche Moscrip becoming his wife. She was born at Fort Miller, Washington county, N. Y., on the banks of the Hudson. Fort Miller was used during the Revolutionary War, in which her great-grandfather Livermore was a soldier. Her maternal grandfather served in the War of 1812. The late Mary A. Livermore, pioneer woman's rights advocate, came of the same family. Three children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Conkey. Robert M. succeeded his father as editor of the Graphic; Mary E. married Bruce McBride of Santa Maria; and Marie Louise is the wife of S. S. Stephenson of the same city. J. F. Conkey is well liked by all who know him. He is sixty-four years "young," and is hale, hearty and genial, and as active as a man of twenty-five.

The genealogy of the Conkey family is traced to Scotch ancestry and the name was known as Conkey and McConkey. The progenitor of the family in America was John McConkey, a Scotchman, who settled with a colony, all bearing that name but one (a minister named Abercrombie), in Pelham, Mass., about two hundred years ago. This John McConkey dropped the "Mc" from the name, and it has ever since remained Conkey. The first record of the family in this country is found in the old Presbyterian Church at Worcester, Mass., where John Conkey owned a pew. Records at Pelham show the Conkeys to have been landowners and taxpayers. Strange to say, though the entire colony who settled at Pelham were named McConkey, there is not a person by that name there today. In direct line of descent John F. Conkey of Santa Maria is the fifth John. His grandfather John was a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

**BELA CLINTON IDE.**—In the life of this successful citizen of Arroyo Grande are illustrated the results of perseverance and energy, coupled with judicious management and strict integrity. He is a citizen of whom any community might well be proud. As a pioneer of this city, he has made his influence felt for the general good. Bela Clinton Ide was born in Cattaraugus county, N. Y., May 5, 1842. At the age of thirteen he came with his parents to Grand Rapids, Mich., where he attended school. He learned the trade of blacksmith at Plymouth, Mich., which he followed until his enlistment for service in the Civil War. He was mustered in at Detroit, August 15, 1862, and assigned to Company C, 24th Michigan Infantry. For three years he was with the Army of the Potomac, First Army Corps, and in 1864 was transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps. During his term of service he was under three different captains—C. B. Crosby, Charles A. Hoyt, and John Weatherspoon—and was also under various generals. He participated in the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg. He was taken prisoner during the last-named battle, and was later released. He also took part in several skirmishes. He was mustered out at Cincinnati,

Returning to Michigan, Mr. Ide worked in a sawmill at Grand Rapids, and also followed his trade, until 1868, when he went to Dodge county, Wis.

There he farmed until 1872. His next move was to Rice county, Kan.; and after two years spent in farming there, he came to California and settled in Arroyo Grande, then a very small village, or rather a stage station, with few settlers in the country round about and large ranches stretching over the plains. He first worked on a threshing machine for R. S. Brown, then for Steele Bros. as a teamster on their large ranch, and later as superintendent of their large dairy. He was employed later by Schwartz, Harford & Co. in their lumber yards located at a point one mile east of Port Harford.

Returning to Arroyo Grande, he served as postmaster from 1902 to 1910, was a member of the school board for several years and did much to promote the cause of education. He was a member of Fred Steele Post No. 70, G. A. R., at San Luis Obispo, and later of Colonel Harper Post, in Arroyo Grande, of which he is the present commander. When he joined, there were forty members, and now there are but seven of the number left.

Mr. Ide is a prominent Mason, belonging to the lodge and chapter, and has held the offices of Master, Senior Deacon and Senior Warden. He was one of the first men to build a house down near the railroad tracks, a site now valuable property. He has built three houses in the town, and Ide street was named in his honor.

Mr. Ide was married in Wisconsin to Mrs. Adelaide (Wood) Hawkins, a native of Pennsylvania, and they had one son, George P. Ide, formerly postmaster of Arroyo Grande. Mrs. Ide passed away in 1906.

**MRS. EMMA KEARNEY RUDE.**—A representative of a pioneer family in California and herself a native of the state, born in Watsonville, Mrs. Emma Kearney Rude is the daughter of James Kearney, a native of Ohio, who was married in Kentucky to Nancy Green, a native of that state. They moved to Missouri, and then to Ohio, and from there came across the plains with ox teams, experiencing the usual trials and hardships encountered by the pioneers. Arriving in California, Mr. Kearney settled on some land near Watsonville that was supposed to be government land; but as it was claimed by another, the settlers were driven off in 1869, one woman being killed in the fight. Mr. Kearney gave up his claim, though afterwards the property proved to be government land. He then moved to Watsonville and engaged in teaming from there to Salinas until 1870, when he took up a homestead on the Huer Huero, proved up on it, and there raised grain and stock until his death in 1892. While on a visit to his son, J. A. Kearney, in Santa Ynez, he was kicked by a horse, and died two days later. His wife passed away in 1870, leaving three children, of whom Mrs. Rude is the youngest, and the only one now living.

Emma Kearney was reared on her father's ranch on the Huer Huero, attended school in the first schoolhouse erected on Estrella plains, and one year in Paso Robles, walking four miles from the ranch and wading the river, in order to get to school. She was married, in 1885, in Bakersfield to William L. Rude, a son of pioneers who came across the plains, and a brother of A. N. Rude, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Rude took up a homestead in Hog cañon, Monterey county, proved up on it and sold it three years later, when they moved to Santa Ynez, Santa Barbara county, and farmed one year. They then moved onto the old Kearney place on the Huer Huero and ran that three years. Their next move was to a government tree claim on Bitter Water, on which

they proved up, and which they later sold. They moved to Paso Robles in 1893, where they opened a feed yard and started a transfer business, now managed by Mrs. Rude. Mr. Rude has continued to do freighting and teaming to some extent, as well as farming in the vicinity of Paso Robles. They own barns, corrals, and a residence, and also five acres on Salinas bottoms, devoted to raising vegetables.

Mr. and Mrs. Rude have five children living. John is in Taft; and Charles, James, Leo and Mildred are at home. Mrs. Rude recalls many incidents of early days when bears, deer, quail, rabbits and other game were very plentiful. One night in 1877 she and her brother were at her father's place at Sand Springs, when a bear killed a steer in the corral adjoining the shack in which they were sleeping. The next day their bed was moved farther up the hill on top of a stack of wild oat hay! Other interesting reminiscences of pioneer times that are fast passing away are pleasingly told by Mrs. Rude, some of them relating to the great hardships endured by the settlers and the many sacrifices they had to make.

**HANS PETER MATHIESON.**—A prominent citizen of San Luis Obispo County, and one who has for many years been active in business and social life, Hans Peter Mathieson commands the respect of all who know him. He was born in Schleswig, Germany, April 8, 1866, a son of Peter Mathteson, who was a native of Denmark, and a farmer by occupation, and who served in the War of 1864, and also in the War of 1870, in the cavalry division of the service.

Hans attended school at Vernaes until he was fifteen years old and made his home with his uncle from the age of nine until twenty, working on the farm and early learning the rudiments of that calling. March 9, 1886, he was drafted into the army, and was assigned to the heavy artillery. This did not suit the young man, who had his own ideas of independence, and on October 31, 1886, he left Germany and came to the United States to be a free man. He stopped in Jackson county, Kans., and near the town of Whiting worked on a farm until 1889, when the call of the West was too strong to be resisted; and that year he arrived in San Luis Obispo County.

His first employment was on a dairy ranch, in the Los Osos valley, owned by T. Reed, and later he learned the trade of blacksmith and wagon maker, which he followed successfully for nine years. In 1901 he was selected to take charge of the cemetery and held that position for two years. In 1903 he bought the farming implements of P. M. Petersen and John Hansen for \$3,204.00, rented land two miles west of San Luis Obispo and engaged in ranching and raising beans. As he succeeded, he purchased his present home of twenty-six acres in 1907, and has improved the place to its present condition and is making a success of his undertaking. He is resident agent for the Santa Barbara Mutual Insurance Co.

Mr. Mathieson was married in San Luis Obispo, January 30, 1897, to Miss Christine Kohler, who was also born in Schleswig, Germany, on December 12, 1867, and they have the following children: Raymond, Wilfred, Annie and Ralph. Mr. Mathieson is a Republican in politics. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, has passed the chairs, and served as Consul in 1908 and 1914-15. He is prominent in the local lodge of Odd Fellows, having passed the chairs of the order, and in 1899 served as Noble Grand, representing his lodge in the Grand Lodge. He was







W. L. W. B. B. B. B.



Anna Kent Borker

elected Grand President of the Danish Society of California in 1911 and served one year. He served as chief of the fire department of San Luis Obispo at one time. As a citizen Mr. Mathieson is well known and highly respected throughout his county. He has made this reputation for himself, and has built up a prosperous farming enterprise solely by his own efforts.

**MR. AND MRS. ANDREW PAUL BORKEY.**—The Borkey family trace their ancestry for generations back to German forebears, with William Borkey as the progenitor of the family in America, who settled in Pennsylvania, where he died. He had a son, George F., who was born in Pennsylvania, farmed there and died at the age of one hundred four. In direct line of descent comes Solomon Borkey, also born in that state near Johnstown, who followed the trade of carpenter and cabinet-maker and is still active at it. He married Cecelia Wildebrandt, a native of that state and a daughter of Henry, born in Germany, and Mary (Myers) Wildebrandt, a native of France, who settled in Pennsylvania.

Andrew Paul Borkey comes next in line, and was born in Johnstown, June 16, 1875, the youngest of ten children of Solomon and Cecelia Borkey, and the only one in California. On account of his father's small salary and large family, Andrew went West at the age of seven to Cedar county, Neb., with an uncle, who promised to educate and care for him; but his uncle proved unworthy of his trust and set him right to work on a farm, compelling him to get out at six o'clock every morning. He worked for three months; and one Sunday evening, while they were practicing Sunday hymns in the yard with a crowd of young children, his uncle abused and whipped him severely. That night he ran away, having only five cents in his pocket. When he left home, he had promised his mother that he would never drink, smoke or chew, and that promise has been lived up to faithfully. In his travels from the home of his uncle he met with an old freighter named John Ross, at Norfolk, and with him he rode to Chadron, Neb., about five hundred miles from Cedar county. Mr. Ross knew C. F. Coffee of Harrison, Nebraska, a large cattleman in Wyoming and Nebraska, and asked him if he didn't "want a good boy." Mr. Coffee replied, "Yes, if he is good; if not, I wouldn't have him at all." The freighter vouched for the lad and he was taken into their home. At the age of eight he started to ride the range, learned to ride and rope, and soon became a full-fledged cowboy.

For eighteen years he made his home with Mr. and Mrs. Coffee, who gave him his education and made him one of their family. He thought he was working for his board and clothes, but faithfully performed every duty imposed upon him. When he was fifteen he wanted to go back home and pay a visit to his parents, with whom he had had no correspondence since leaving, on account of a fear that if he did write them his uncle would discover his whereabouts and bring him back. Mr. Coffee gave him a check for \$4,000 for his services, and also transportation round trip, thus showing their appreciation of his faithfulness; and all this he in turn gave to his father, and so started him in business and enabled him to buy property that is now worth \$75,000. His arrival at home surprised his parents, but he did not stay long, as he found things different from the freedom of the plains, his Western friends and the enjoyment of the Coffee home. After ten days, he returned to Nebraska, taking with him his sisters, Martha and Mary, who made their home with him until their marriage. The former became Mrs.

Hubert Peters, and Mary married Leo Roderick and is now deceased. Mr. Borkey spent the next ten years with Mr. Coffee as superintendent, and received \$1,500 and found, per year. He rode the ranges, which extended over two hundred miles, and looked after about 40,000 head of stock. He leased a ranch and carried on an independent stock business during part of this time, selling out in three years some three hundred head of stock. He was active as a cowboy, riding the range for twenty-three years, eighteen of which were spent in the employ of C. F. Coffee. During his stay in Nebraska, he had his parents come to visit him eight different times, and each time he paid all their expenses.

When he was seventeen years old he won the champion roping contest at Cheyenne, Wyo., on Frontier Day, where he roped and tied three steers in three minutes and thirty-five seconds, a record that has never been broken. The horse he used was given him afterwards by its owner, E. R. Mason, and Mr. Borkey brought it to California with him and still owns it. It is now twenty-four years old. During his experiences on the ranges he had collected a large number of relics and pictures. These he let his sister take with her when she went to Dakota after her marriage, to keep for him, and they were burned when her home was destroyed in Edgemont, entailing him an irreparable loss.

Mr. Borkey contracted rheumatism while riding the ranges, and had to seek a milder climate, and so came to California. In 1907 he started, on crutches, and when he reached Flagstaff, Ariz., he was in such pain that he had to stop over. Four days later the pains left him as quickly as they had come, and he threw his crutches away and has never had a recurrence of the disease.

Arriving in Pasadena, he went to work for Humphrey's Feed & Fuel Co. and remained three years, when he left to accept a position in Los Angeles as car-checker for the Globe Milling Company. From there he went to Puente as foreman for F. C. Macy on his alfalfa ranch. His next move was to Paso Robles, which place he had visited at one time and liked. Here he bought twenty-seven acres about two miles west of town and located on it, improving it and setting out fruit and nuts. Half the land is in orchard. Within less than a year he purchased ninety-two acres of alfalfa land located across the Salinas river about one mile from Paso Robles, on which he now has sixty acres seeded. He has developed a good supply of water, and has two pumping plants, one run by a gasoline engine, pumping from the well, and the other operated by electricity, pumping from the river. He cuts seven crops each year and markets the product. He has succeeded from the start and is well satisfied with his choice of location for his home.

Mr. Borkey was married in Pasadena, July 26, 1911, to Anna Kent, a native of Linden, Iowa county, Wisconsin, the daughter of Thomas O. and Ellen (Croug) Kent, born respectively in England and Wisconsin. The father was a Methodist minister in Iowa until he retired to Pasadena, Cal., where he died; his wife still makes her home there. Mrs. Borkey was graduated at Cornell College, at Mt. Vernon, Ia., and followed teaching in Iowa, and in Pasadena on coming to California, until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Borkey have three children: Paul Kent, Wilfred Raymond, and Ellen Lucile.

Mr. and Mrs. Borkey are both members of the Methodist Church in Paso Robles. While in Nebraska he was superintendent

of the Sunday school and a teacher in the same. To attend, he had to ride sixty-four miles round trip each Sunday, which he did, rain or shine. The membership of the church grew rapidly, and inside of nine months there were over two hundred in attendance. They raised two thousand dollars for a church, and he was one of eight men who paid the preacher's salary four years in advance at one thousand dollars per year. Three stockmen, he being one of them, paid for and erected a parsonage. The attendance now numbers over four hundred, and a new church has been built. In national politics, Mr. Borkey is a Republican, and is a strong and active advocate of temperance. He is a liberal supporter of all movements for the uplift of the people, has made a success of his own labors, and always lends a helping hand to those less fortunate than himself. In every sense of the word he is a self-made man, and highly respected by all who know him.

**GEORGE W. HEARST.**—An industrious and enterprising citizen and a pioneer of San Luis Obispo County of 1873, George W. Hearst has done much towards the development of the dairy interests of this section. He was born in Stanton, Franklin county, Mo., December 12, 1850, a son of Joseph and Hannah (Armistead) Hearst, natives of North Carolina and Tennessee. The father settled in Missouri and engaged in farming; and there he died in 1856, the father of four children, George W. being the only one now living. Mrs. Hearst married after the death of her husband, and became the mother of two sons, one of whom is yet living. She died in 1892.

George W. Hearst was reared on a farm and attended the public schools of his neighborhood, and the Newport high school. After completing his studies, he came to California in 1873, with his younger brother, Richard S.; and after a short stay in San Francisco, he located near Cambria, San Luis Obispo County, and leased the Santa Rosa ranch, one of the ranches owned by his cousin, George Hearst, and engaged in farming. Later he took up dairying, adding to his herd until he had two hundred cows and utilized 1,340 acres of land in Green valley.

When first he started a dairy here he had only the wild cows that he would bring up and try to break in so they could be milked; they would bring up about a hundred head at a time, and it took patience and careful handling to do anything with them. Some would not give down their milk. Often they had to be thrown to be milked; and he soon found that they were unfit for the dairy business. Even some of the wild cows, however, seemed to enjoy the care bestowed upon them and, after three or four ropings, would become docile; while others would fight, and never became tractable. Some of them became good milkers in time, and the calves raised from them were easily handled. The milk was panned, and in such a quantity, from so many cows, that 1200 pans were required. It was a task to take the proper care of the pans. These were washed and scalded, and put out in the sun to dry. At times they had to churn twice daily. The butter was formed into rolls or squares and packed in boxes for shipment by boat to Los Angeles and San Francisco markets. After he had succeeded in taming the wild cows and had built up a dairy, his neighbors and others began doing likewise. His cousin, George Hearst, who owned so many thousand acres and so many cattle, established several fine dairy ranches on his holdings, and made large sums of money by the enterprise.

During this time, Mr. Hearst had a partner in his brother, Richard S. Hearst. After his brother's death in 1875, he formed a partnership with his half-brother, Eli Park, who had come to California with his mother, and was with him also. His mother and brother went East, later on; and then Mr. Hearst bought a place of three hundred seventy-two and one-half acres on Toro creek, near Cayucos, and there established a dairy of fifty cows, which he ran for some years.

In 1890 he located in Paso Robles, purchasing his present place and erecting the residence. Now he leases out the ranch for dairy purposes. Besides this place, Mr. Hearst has bought, improved and sold several pieces of property at a good profit, and owns a ranch of four hundred eighty acres in the Asuncion district, which he devotes to dairying and fruit-raising, making a specialty of apples. He is a man of sterling worth and integrity, and liberal in his support of public movements for the upbuilding of the county. While he lives in town, he looks after his country estates and enjoys life in the land of sunshine and gold, although he has had to work hard to gain the latter. He is a stockholder and a director of the First National Bank of Paso Robles, and was one of the original stockholders in the Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo when it was established in 1888.

George W. Hearst was united in marriage in San Luis Obispo, December 12, 1883, with Miss Susan Hendrix, who was born in Franklin county, Mo., the daughter of Wilburn and Phoebe (Armistead) Hendrix, farmers of that section of the country. One child was born of this union—a daughter, Mabel, now the wife of Lewis Terra, who is operating the Hearst ranch in Asuncion. Mrs. Hearst and her daughter are members of the Christian Church in Paso Robles.

**WILLIAM ARTHUR CONRAD, JR.**—The name which W. A. Conrad bears is one which has long been associated with California, for his father, William Alexander Conrad, came with his parents to California and to San Luis Obispo County, with his brothers, and they engaged in farming in the vicinity of Arroyo Grande, where he is now living, practically retired from active pursuits.

William Arthur Conrad was reared to the age of seven years in Tuolumne county, where he was born, October 18, 1870. Seven years later he was brought to this county, and with his parents he settled on a ranch six miles north of Arroyo Grande, attending the public schools and growing to manhood on the home place.

When he was twenty-eight, he desired to embark in some mercantile business and came to Arroyo Grande and bought out a drug store. Having no previous knowledge of the business, he gave it his entire time and attention, and now has one of the best-equipped stores of its kind, for a city of the size of Arroyo Grande, in this part of the state. The business was limited when he took charge, but by persistent effort he has built up a good paying trade, handling only the best and purest drugs to be found.

Mr. Conrad is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the blue lodge and chapter in Masonry, and has been a director in the Bank of Arroyo Grande since 1900. He was married in December, 1900, to Miss Lydia C. Kinney,

Mr. Conrad is one of the live, wide-awake business men of the town and associated with all movements for its upbuilding.





Alice Grunwell  
C. L. Grunwell.

**CHARLES L. GRUWELL.**—More than any other state in the Union, California traces its vigorous growth and prosperity directly to the sturdy character and untiring perseverance of its pioneers, many of whom risked their lives on the trackless, Indian-infested plains, bringing hither eastern conservatism and practical experience to the aid of western chaos and impetuosity. Enrolled among these noble and self-sacrificing men are the Gruwells, four of whom crossed the plains with Laban, the father of Charles L. Gruwell of Paso Robles. Laban Gruwell was born in Iowa in March, 1816, and was married there to Eliza Wilson, a native of Kentucky who had come to Iowa, where she taught school. They outfitted for the long trip across the plains with ox teams and such necessary supplies as they could carry, and began the journey, which at that time was a hazardous one, for the Indians were troublesome and other dangers beset them on every side.

Arriving here they located in Alviso, Santa Clara county, where Mr. Gruwell did teaming with oxen to San Jose, and then farmed on a ranch on the Saratoga road. From there he went to Lake county, and at Lakeport settled for a time on a farm; but not liking it there, he returned to Santa Clara county, and in 1874 came down into San Luis Obispo. He soon went back to Contra Costa county, where he lived until his death near Concord, at the age of eighty-seven years and two months. His wife died in Santa Clara county in 1881. Grandfather Gruwell was a farmer in Iowa, where he was one of the pioneers on the frontier. Five of his sons came across the plains to California in 1849. They reared large families here, and did much towards the development of the various interests of the state. One, Jacob Gruwell, was a prominent preacher in the Methodist Church South, and died at the age of ninety-five years.

Of the family of Laban Gruwell and wife there were eleven children, namely: Amanda, who was Mrs. S. M. Maze, and who died in Gilroy; Jacob O., who was a farmer in Summit, and later removed to near Chico, where he died; Anne, who was the wife of the Rev. James Lovell, and passed away at Lompoc; Mary Janet, who was Mrs. F. Rice, and died in Lakeport; Ruth, who was the wife of John Fox, and who after the death of John Fox married C. S. Hoff, and died at Huntington Beach; Joseph, who died when ten years old; Minerva J., who died in infancy; George, who was married to Mary Jane Taylor, both of whom are now deceased; Charles L.; Bettie, who was the wife of John James and died at Concord, California; and Laura, who was Mrs. James Wilson and who died at Santa Ynez.

Charles L., the subject of this review, is the only living member of this family. He is a resident of Paso Robles, and was born in San Jose, July 30, 1856. He followed his parents from place to place as they moved about. He attended the public schools and the Pacific University, now the University of the Pacific, until 1874, when he came to this county with his father, and followed farming and stock-raising five years. At Josephine, this county, on March 19, 1879, he was united in marriage with Alice Fowler, born in Napa county, a daughter of Henry and Sarah (Morris) Fowler, who crossed the plains and settled in Napa county, where they were married. There they farmed until 1866, when, coming to San Luis Obispo County, they were among the first settlers at Cayucos, and farmed in the Rincon district, and then in Josephine district, until they retired to San Luis Obispo, where the father



died at the age of seventy-three years, and where the mother is still living, aged seventy-five.

The family of Henry Fowler consisted of seven children: Margaret, Mrs. Ferlin of San Diego; Alice, Mrs. Gruwell; Theodore, who died in San Diego; Fred, who resides in Santa Maria; Lizzie, Mrs. John Bagby of Paso Robles; Laura, the wife of V. A. Lindner of Watsonville; and Mary, who died at the age of seven years. Mrs. Gruwell was educated in San Luis Obispo County. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Gruwell located on a stock ranch in Summit district, fourteen miles west of Paso Robles, where he engaged in the stock business and also had a dairy business at the headwaters of Jack creek. There he bought a ranch, and later homesteaded and bought until he had six hundred acres, and carried on the stock and dairy business on a large scale and with success. His brand was 97. In their dairy they panned the milk, skimmed by hand and used horse power for churning, and had a furnace and boiler at the milk house for washing and scalding the pans. Nearly all their butter was sold in Paso Robles and San Luis Obispo, and was put up in squares. The name of the creamery was known far and wide as the "Live Oak Creamery." His stock was of the short-horned Durham breed, which he considers best adapted for dairy and beef cattle. In 1911, Mr. Gruwell sold his ranch and stock and located in Paso Robles, where he is now living, retired, enjoying the comforts of the present day and looking back on pioneer times when the luxuries of today were not even thought of. He and his wife attend the Congregational Church, and in politics he supports Democratic policies.

The name of Charles L. Gruwell is worthy of enrollment among the pioneer residents of California, who foresaw the great possibilities of the state, and put their shoulders to the wheel to develop the opportunities by which they were surrounded.

**GIDEON EDWARD THURMOND.**—A history of the Santa Maria valley, with special attention to the schools of the section, would be incomplete without mention of Gideon Edward Thurmond, who served for twenty-four years as superintendent of the schools of Santa Barbara county, and did so much to bring them to their present condition. He was born near Saulsbury, Tenn., November 27, 1843, the son of a farmer, and he spent his boyhood and young manhood in tilling the soil. He was educated at the University of North Carolina, and from there joined the Confederate army at the age of nineteen, and was assigned to the Seventeenth Mississippi Regiment, Featherstone's Brigade, Army of the Potomac. He made a gallant soldier through all the series of battles and marches in which this grand army engaged, and was honorably mentioned for coolness and gallant conduct in one of the last battles before Richmond, where he received a wound that made him a cripple for life.

Mr. Thurmond came to California in 1868 and settled first in Monticito, moving a few years later to Carpinteria, where he resided until his death on January 25, 1911. He was elected county school superintendent for Santa Barbara county in 1874, and in that field he found his life work, holding that responsible office for twenty-four years. He was capable, energetic, always pleasant, and was both popular with the teachers and beloved by the children. It was often said of him that he knew every school child by name. He was energetic in forming districts where they

were needed, and discouraged applications under contrary circumstances. His motto was "Better strain the law a little than injure the schools." After a busy and useful life he passed away to his reward mourned by every school child in the county, as well as by their parents, with whom he was always on the best of terms.

Mr. Thurmond was united in marriage with Ellen Dickerson of Washington county, Va., who still lives at Carpinteria. At the time of his death, he left two sons and two daughters: Hunter, a teacher in Carpinteria; Gwinn, a farmer in Ventura county; Mary, the wife of Benjamin Bailard of Carpinteria valley; and Mildred.

**JOHN H. HAYDON.**—To the man who possesses the characteristics of patience and determination, united with absolute honor and consideration for the rights of others, life yields both success and happiness. Distinctly of this class is John H. Haydon of Santa Maria, surveyor, educator, politician and historian. He was born August 3, 1837, at Warsaw, Ky., on the bank of the Ohio river, and is thus eighty years "young." He has more than attained the goal of biblical times. He is active, resourceful, and interesting, and for a man of his years physically strong. "Haydon" is an Americanization of the German "Haydn." Many James Haydns or Haydons appear in the early records at Albemarle Court House, Va. His grandfather, James Haydon, was a Revolutionary soldier and a cavalryman in "Light Horse Harry Lee's" command. It was he who changed the spelling of Haydon.

On both sides the forebears have been revolutionists and fighters. The progenitor of the family in America immigrated from England to the Virginia Colonies in the latter part of the seventeenth century. Grandfather James Haydon settled in Boonesborough, Ky., in 1787, and became associated with Daniel Boone, Weitzel and others of the pioneers in those early days when the soil of Kentucky was the dark and bloody ground. The father was married in Kentucky, in 1820, to Miss Madeline Houston, niece of Gen. Sam Houston of Texas, a distinguished representative of a family that came from Scotland to the Colonies about the same time as did the Haydons. After living long in Kentucky, they moved to Missouri, where they remained many years. They had six sons and three daughters. Five of the sons, including John H. Haydon, and one son-in-law, were in the Confederate army; and two sons were killed in service. Of these children two are living: Mrs. Mary McGrew, of Sheldon, Mo., and John H., of this review.

John Haydon was educated in public and private schools and in the University of Missouri, where he also proved his physical powers as an athlete. He was a wrestler and a one-hundred-yard runner, and held the record for three standing jumps, thirty-three feet. He came across the plains to California in 1865, when he showed his prowess as an Indian fighter, the Indians being on the war-path; and as captain of the train, Mr. Haydon led the fighting to protect his outfit at Bitter Cottonwood—now Cottonwood Springs—Cook's Ranch, and Medicine Bow. At the latter place, William Shearin, an uncle of Mark L. Shearin of Santa Maria, a member of his party, was killed.

On arriving in California, Mr. Haydon stopped for a while in Santa Rosa, and in 1868 returned East via Panama and New York, settling in Mexico, Mo., where he served as county surveyor and road and bridge commissioner for a term of years, and built the first iron and steel bridge in his

county. He soon stricken with pen paralysis, which made drafting impossible, he began teaching school; and in this work he continued until he again came to California in 1888.

Arriving in the Santa Maria valley, he continued teaching about six years, settling on a small ranch five miles south of Santa Maria, where he set out an orchard of prunes and apricots, and went "broke" because the fruit was a failure for want of irrigation. He then moved into the town and served as postmaster from 1895 to 1899; and after that he became connected with the telephone company and did much to extend their system in the valley. He has done reportorial work for newspapers, and has written a history of the Santa Maria valley for the Historic Record Company of Los Angeles.

Mr. Haydon was united in marriage in Mexico, Mo., in 1860, with Miss Phoebe Eleanor Martin, a native of that place, a noble woman and a true helpmate for her husband. She was the mother of three children: James W., of Taft, who is married and has one son, Albert Lucas; Mrs. Annie Lee Jones, of Mexico, Mo.; and Mrs. Dora M. Miscall, of Tulare, Cal. Mrs. Haydon passed away January 3, 1913, mourned by all who knew her.

Mr. Haydon has been a lifelong Democrat, has always taken an active interest in politics, and has rendered valiant service during campaigns, often carrying his section of the county to victory. He favors and fights for good schools and good roads, considering them a prime necessity to build up any community. For years he has been connected with the Presbyterian Church, has always been a great advocate of Sunday schools, and dearly loves the children; and this feeling is returned by them. He has served as superintendent of the Sunday school for many years, and has exerted a beneficent influence on the younger generation. He is thoroughly progressive and advocates every improvement for the public good. He is a Mason, and a man who counts every man his friend.

**AMOS SMITHERS.**—Born in Woodstock, Canada, on October 31, 1851, Amos Smithers is the son of William Smithers, a farmer of Sussex, England, who migrated to Canada, where he engaged in farming until his death. The father died when Amos was but three years of age. The lad attended school until he was twelve years of age, after which he worked on the farm.

In November, 1874, at twenty-three years of age, Amos Smithers pushed out bravely across the wide continent to California. He settled in San Luis Obispo County in May, 1875, choosing this district in preference to Tulare county, in which for a while he had tarried after his arrival in the state. On coming to this county he found employment at farming around Cambria. At about this time Mr. Smithers was married to Miss Ida M. Terrill, who was born in Sonoma county of a family of pioneers who came to that section in 1849. This happy event occurred in December, 1878, and probably had much to do with Mr. Smithers' rapid steps forward in dairy ranching. He first rented land and then purchased the nucleus of his present property, a nice home of three hundred fifteen acres. This he stocked with handsome Jerseys, and in a short time made himself famous for miles around for the quality of his dairy products. His ranching operations brought him into commercial prominence, and he was soon sought as both stockholder and director of the Bank of Cambria, a live and substantial institution that is a credit to the community, which well supports it. He became an Odd Fellow in 1886, in

Hesperian Lodge No. 181, Cambria, of which he is Past Grand and an ex-representative to the Grand Lodge.

Several boys and girls have come to brighten Amos Smithers' life, among them Warren, Ernest T., Mabel I., Shelby W., Lloyd and Lester, all of whom are living. Two daughters, Mary and Charlotte, are deceased. On September 5, 1914, the excellent wife of Mr. Smithers, a mother whose devotion was felt beyond her cosy home, also passed to the Spirit Land. This bereavement, however, has not embittered the life of Amos Smithers, on whom Cambria looks as one of her most smiling and optimistic citizens.

**LOUIS Z. HAUN.**—A native son of Arroyo Grande and prominently identified with the commercial interests of that town, Louis Z. Haun comes from a well-known family in the county. He was born on June 18, 1893, the son of William A. and Ida A. (Forsting) Haun, both natives of the East, who came to the West, were here married, and are now residents of Arroyo Grande. They have three children: Nancy, wife of Jesse Burns of San Luis Obispo, Mae and Louis Z. Mrs. Haun's parents were among the earliest settlers in Arroyo Grande valley. The family were prominent in an early day, and now all are deceased except Mrs. Haun.

Louis attended the public schools in the town until he was sixteen, then spent one year in high school, and after that became a clerk in a store here. He worked eighteen months for the railroad at the station in Arroyo Grande then accepted a clerkship with S. Alexander and held the position for eighteen months.

With his savings he wished to enter upon a business career for himself; and, resigning his position, he bought out the meat market known as Langenbeck & Ketchum, purchasing Mr. Ketchum's interest. Thereafter the firm was known as Langenbeck & Haun. As the business prospered, this company purchased the shop conducted by Morgan & Gilliam, moving their business to the new location, and now having the only shop in the town, and doing a good business because of the fine country surrounding them. Mr. Haun is in charge of the market, while his partner looks after the outside work and buys cattle.

He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and of the Portuguese lodge, U. P. E. C. He is a self-made man, and while young in years, has a bright future.

**CARMI ELLISON MOSHER.**—The county of San Luis Obispo is the abode of a large number of men who were thrown on their own resources at an early age, and whose natural abilities were strengthened by contact with the world, thus gaining for them the esteem of associates, as well as financial success. To these men Carmi Ellison Mosher, hardware merchant of Arroyo Grande, is no exception. He was born in Ontario, Canada, November 24, 1853, and had school privileges until he was twelve years old, ever since which time he has been self-supporting. Until he was twenty-eight years old, he worked for wages as a farm hand; then he was employed as a driller by Gilbert Bros., when they were widening the St. Lawrence channel, and worked for them five years.

On January 1, 1888, Mr. Mosher started for California and arrived in San Luis Obispo County on January 21. He went to work for the Bituminous Rock Company for three years, then took up farm work on a ranch adjoining Pismo, and carried that on for three years. He then moved to

Edna on the Bituminous ranch and stayed there three years; and thence in 1898, to Huasna ranch, and farmed four years to wheat and barley, when he "went broke," and had to begin all over again. This he courageously did, farming on shares the T. J. Steele ranch; and four years were spent raising grain and hogs on 1,000 acres. He was successful, but sold out and moved to Arroyo Grande and in November, 1907, bought the hardware business of C. S. Kinney, where he has been gradually building up a good business as a dealer in general hardware, farming implements and machinery, and plumbing.

Mr. Mosher was married at Edna, February 17, 1890, to Jessie M. Cormack, a native of Delhi, N. Y., born in 1862. They were parents of four children: James C.; Carrie L., who married G. Hampton; Frank; and Charles, now deceased. Mrs. Mosher passed away in December, 1895. Mr. Mosher is a member of the Woodmen of the World and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and also the Women of Woodcraft. He has had reverses, but is optimistic as to the future, public-spirited as far as his means will permit, and honest and industrious—in short, a good example of a self-made man.

**WILLIAM H. DOWELL.**—Through his connection with important interests in Arroyo Grande William H. Dowell has become a factor in the commercial life of the county. He has been a resident of the county since 1888. He was born in Farley, Platte county, Mo., July 26, 1863, a son of James A. Dowell, who was a farmer all his life. At the age of seven years young Dowell accompanied his parents to Butler county, Kan., where for five years they settled on a farm. In 1875 they moved to Iowa, and there he grew to maturity and attended the common schools. Reaching the age of nineteen years, he started out for himself. He went to Chase county, rented land and began farming; but after two years, he returned home and for a time was employed on the railroad. Then he went to farming once more and met with success. Selling out, he next moved to Indian Territory; then, coming West to California, he located in Arroyo Grande, arriving September 20, 1888.

His first work was as a wood chopper, clearing land, and this occupied him one year, when he bought seven and one half acres in Carpenter cañon. Five years later he sold the land and went to the Edna district, where he rented one hundred forty acres which he farmed until 1897. He had married and decided to return to Kansas and live; but in January, 1898, he returned to Arroyo Grande and bought ten and one half acres set out to a walnut orchard, now in fine condition. This place Mr. Dowell has improved and

In 1900 he bought an interest in the Arroyo Grande Commercial Company, and from 1913 to 1915 he served on the board of directors. In politics he is a Democrat and has always been active in the party councils. He also served five years as trustee of the high school, and was elected Justice of the Peace in 1914. He is a member of and has passed all the chairs in Arroyo Grande Lodge, No. 265, I. O. O. F., was delegate to the Grand Lodge twice, served as district deputy, and is a member of the Rebekahs. He is also a

Mr. Dowell was united in marriage with Mina A. Carpenter, a native of Kansas, who was born in Chase county, May 15, 1871, and came with her parents to Arroyo Grande in May, 1888; and they had the following children:

Lorena L., Claudia L., Clinton W., Audre C., Nellie F., Lee C., Freda M., Wilma A., Clifflie A., and Raleigh C. Mrs. Dowell passed away December 21, 1905. Mr. Dowell is a self-made man and highly respected for his sterling traits of character by all who know him.

**JOHN CHAPEK.**—One of the foremost citizens of San Luis Obispo, and a man of sterling worth, is John Chapek, a leading contractor and builder of the city and county, and a member of the city council, to which he was elected on April 2, 1917. He was born in Bohemia, under Austrian rule, September 2, 1872; and after he had received such schooling as was accorded the youth of that section, he went to Vienna and learned the trade of carpenter, serving a three years' apprenticeship. At the age of eighteen he came to the United States to find here better opportunities than were offered young and energetic men in his own country. He worked at his trade in Prairie du Chien, Wis., for six months, from which place he went to Clayton county, Ia., where he was engaged as a carpenter until 1893.

In 1893 Mr. Chapek came to San Luis Obispo County. He was engaged in farming near Arroyo Grande until 1899, when he came to the city of San Luis Obispo and began working at his trade. He was so successful that after six months he began contracting and decided to remain in that occupation. In 1907, he formed a partnership with F. H. Johnson and they organized the Union Hardware Co., and continued the business three years. At the expiration of this time, Mr. Chapek sold out his interest in the business to his partner, still retaining ownership of the building.

Mr. Chapek was united in marriage, September 15, 1903, with Mary S. Anderson, a native of California, a daughter of John and Ellen (Dunsmuir) Anderson, pioneers of California; and they have four children: Carl J., John R., Eleanor, and Frederick, all of whom were born in San Luis Obispo County.

Mr. Chapek has been a big factor in the upbuilding of San Luis Obispo and surrounding country, and has built and sold many cottages, besides doing work for others. He is now owner of a number of houses from which he receives good rent. An addition to the city known as Fremont Heights, one of the choice residence sections, has been put on the market by Mr. Chapek; and on this he has erected many fine houses. Some of the buildings put up by him are the Miles Station schoolhouse, the Charles Brewer block, and the old Masonic block; while among the first buildings he erected was the Reedy Hotel, one of the earliest three-story buildings built in the town. From his first contract to the present time he has made good; and his work, scattered throughout the county, has given perfect satisfaction to his patrons. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and a life member of the B. P. O. Elks.

**WILLIAM WALLACE.**—The State of New York has contributed many citizens to help swell the population of the Golden State, each county getting its share of these representative Americans; and they are engaged in every calling. The proprietor of the El Mar cafe at Pismo, which was opened in 1906 by William Wallace, has added to the enterprise of the beach town.

He was born in New York City, October 15, 1875, was educated in the public schools and was variously employed until coming to California, in 1901. He was engaged in the liquor business in San Francisco for two years, then sold out and came to Arroyo Grande, where he began business as proprietor of Ryan's Hotel, carrying on that hostelry until he opened his present place, two and one-half years later.

Mr. Wallace was united in marriage, in 1902, with Miss Ella Lang, who is a native daughter of California, having been born in San Francisco, where her marriage also took place.

Mr. Wallace is a booster for the county, and supports every movement for the upbuilding of the beach resort, which is his home.

**WILLIAM HEMPHILL.**—Great have been the advances made in the science and practice of horticulture, particularly in the knowledge of the soil and how it must be treated, as will be seen by even a brief visit to those well-cultivated lands in charge of William Hemphill, one of the most energetic, painstaking and progressive cultivators of orchard trees, in San Luis Obispo County. A native of Bally Kelly, County Derry, Ireland, William's father, a farmer of Scotch descent, was also surnamed William; while a brother, Rev. John Hemphill, is now a retired Presbyterian minister living at Los Gatos. William, whose boyhood was spent on a farm and at the local public school, was the sixth eldest of eight children.

When fifteen years of age, that is, in 1870, the lad came to the United States and to San Francisco, where he obtained employment in a business office and attended, in spare hours, the Pacific Business College. Three years later he came to San Luis Obispo County, and was made bookkeeper for the several Steele ranches. He next rented a dairy, for the first season at Arroyo Grande; after which he went to Contra Costa county, where he engaged in stock-raising at the base of Mt. Diablo. Another move brought him to Danville and set him up in the butcher business.

In 1900, Mr. Hemphill was back in San Luis Obispo County, where his brother had a large farm of some sixteen hundred acres, mostly in the Oak Flat district, and along the Encinal. This he ran as a stock farm, while for eight or nine years he also rented other ranches. He put in four years at Santa Margarita in the raising of grain, after which he was foreman and then manager of the Santa Margarita ranch, one year raising 20,000 sacks of barley. In 1912, he returned to Paso Robles to clear the land on the Talbot ranch, and three years later he assumed his present responsibility, that of superintending the San Ignacio and Santa Helena ranches, owned by the world-famed pianist, Paderewski, and Madame Paderewski, to which he has added the care of extensive improvements being made upon these properties. Already two hundred forty acres have been set out to almonds, walnuts and pears, principally almonds. The summit of the Merritt Springs tract is frostless on the southern and eastern slopes, and there they have set out oranges and lemons as an experiment.

William Hemphill has twice been married. On the first occasion the ceremony took place in Sonoma county, where he was wedded to Miss Elizabeth Gordon, a native of the district, who died at Danville. Eleven children were born from this union, and the following seven attained maturity: Della Elizabeth, who is a trained nurse in San Francisco; William Gordon, a machinist there; Estella Gertrude and Lillias Margarita, both bookkeepers and stenographers in the northern metropolis; Chester Arthur, who also resides in San Francisco; John P., in attendance at the San Luis Obispo high school; and one who resides in Danville. His second marriage took place in 1914, where he was joined to Miss Sallie Findley, who was born in Illinois and died at San Luis Obispo, leaving one child, Laurence, who attends the San Luis Obispo high school.



Wm. H. Hill





A great world tragedy threw a deep shadow across Mr. Hemphill's otherwise happy life. His sister, Mrs. Martha Moody, owner of a large country estate near Londonderry, Ireland, after a visit to her brothers in California, accompanied by her daughter, Meta, during which the ladies also enjoyed the Exposition at San Francisco, was returning to Europe on the "Lusitania" when that ship was torpedoed and sent to the watery abyss. With so many other victims, Mrs. Moody was lost; but her daughter was saved, and returned to Londonderry to tell the story of the sinking and of her mother's lamented death.

Mr. Hemphill is a Republican in national political affairs. He has served as a school trustee in both the Encinal and the Summit districts.

**ERASTUS FOUCH.**—Among those who walk the streets of Arroyo Grande with head erect and looking every man in the face, is Erastus Fouch, the well-known farmer of veteran military experience to whom some of the educational and other problems of the district have been committed. Born in the country districts near Creole, Vinton county, Ohio, on September 7, 1844, the son of James Fouch, Erastus attended school and did the chores about a farm until he was seventeen or eighteen years old, having in the meantime learned the ins and outs of agriculture, from A to Z.

When the great War for the Union broke out, Mr. Fouch was among the first to enlist as a volunteer in the famous 75th Ohio Infantry, and from that date until 1865 he served his country faithfully as a private soldier, and underwent both the dangers of action and the privations incident to such a career. He served under Captain George Fry, and in May of 1862 was with the intrepid Irving McDowell, then General and later park commissioner at San Francisco, who laid out the beautiful drives known as the Golden Gate Park. Mr. Fouch saw service at Manassas, Chancellorsville, Bull Run, and the Battle of Gettysburg, incidental to which he was for fifty-one days a prisoner of war. The long conflict passed, Mr. Fouch migrated to Carver county, Minnesota, and later for some time farmed in Hennepin county, near Excelsior, where he bought land and raised wheat on a large scale.

Attracted by the wonderful climate of California, he sold out and came West, coming almost immediately to San Luis Obispo County; and in the vicinity of Arroyo Grande he bought a home surrounded by thirty-three and a half acres. This land he has improved, devoting part of it to farming and part to the raising of fruit and alfalfa; and in addition he has rented considerable land and carried on general farming.

In practically every way Mr. Fouch has been successful as a farmer, and while enjoying domestic life to the full, he has never failed to give his support to civic affairs in which helpers are needed, but are often wanting. One instance of this is his relation to the local high school, for the establishing of which Mr. Fouch worked so hard. He has been a very active member of Colonel Harper Post No. 126, G. A. R. ~~and has been a member of the~~ he nevertheless is an independent in local matters, and always works for the best man and the best issue.

On June 19, 1866, in Ohio, Erastus Fouch was married to Miss Mary Emily McClannahan. She was born in Ohio, July 25, 1850. Mr. and Mrs. Fouch are the parents of nine children: Anthony F., Lilly, Frank J., Pearlle D., Arthur, Charles W. D., Edwin, Harley H., and Elby A.

**JOHN C. HANSEN.**—Many of our best citizens have come from foreign lands, and in the New World have overcome obstacles and made a name and place for themselves, as well as promoted the welfare of the country at large. In the vicinity of San Luis Obispo, where he has lived since 1879, John C. Hansen is no exception to the rule. He was born in Denmark, Schleswig-Holstein, October 15, 1862, and attended the common schools until he was fifteen years of age. He lived at home with his parents, Peter and Anna Marie Hansen, both now deceased (the father died in 1915, aged eighty-three years, and the mother passed away in 1914, also eighty-three years of age), and assisted with the usual duties about the place until 1879, when he decided he could better his condition by coming to a new country.

With an aunt, Mrs. Margaret Beck, he came direct to San Luis Obispo County; and in the Santa Fe district he worked for wages for the first two years. He then started out for himself with a partner, P. M. Petersen, where the tank farm is now located, and continued farming in that locality until 1903, when they sold their lease, stock and tools to Hans P. Mathieson. Mr. Hansen then moved to the Laguna district and there farmed until 1911. He also engaged in dairying; and meeting with good results, he then traded his interest, and came to his present home place, where he is raising hay and doing general farming.

Through all these changes, Mr. Hansen has never neglected his duties as a citizen, but has supported those movements that have had for their object the upbuilding of the county. He married, in San Luis Obispo in 1911, Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth (Clausen) Morland, who was born in Tennessee. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never aspired to office. By hard work and good management, Mr. Hansen has acquired a fine ranch of one hundred sixty-four acres, which he has improved to its present fine condition. He is a worthy citizen of the county and holds the respect of all with whom he comes in contact.

**JOHANNES R. HEINRICH.**—Among the various industries that have taken root in San Luis Obispo county, and are rapidly becoming a valuable asset among the many and varied lines of enterprises, is the raising of poultry. One of the largest plants of its kind in the county is owned and operated by Johannes R. Heinrich of Arroyo Grande. Mr. Heinrich is a native of Germany, born in Dresden, October 20, 1877, where he attended the grammar and high schools, and supplemented these by a course in college, from which he was graduated in 1895. He then went to work in the store his father owned at Dresden, and beginning at the bottom, learned the business thoroughly, and with the experience thus gained was able to secure lucrative employment elsewhere. In 1903, Mr. Heinrich came to America, worked for two years in the great establishment of John Wanamaker in New York, and then came to California.

With the money he possessed, he came direct to San Luis Obispo County, determined to engage in the poultry business, which he had studied thoroughly. Purchasing land where he is now located, with no improvements of any kind upon it, he began putting things in shape and erected buildings suitable for a beginning; and purchasing four hundred white Leghorn chickens, he began his business. From the start he succeeded in creating a market in San Francisco for his eggs, receiving the highest market prices.

As he prospered, he enlarged his poultry houses and built brooder-houses, and started hatching with one small incubator, which has been increased to twelve, with an output of from 20,000 to 25,000 baby chicks annually, all of which are shipped as day-old chicks to points in Oregon, Arizona and California. He now has fifteen hundred laying hens, carefully selected thoroughbred single-comb white Leghorns. His entire plant, brooder-house, incubator house and chicken houses, is most modern in design and appointment, and year by year Mr. Heinrich has gained in prestige and popularity, and has established himself in the confidence of the people. He believes in satisfied customers and has increased his business by honorable dealings.

On August 3, 1904, Miss Helen Thiele, a native of Chemnitz, Germany, and Mr. Heinrich were united in marriage, and his wife has been a most capable helpmate to her husband. He is a member and past master of the Arroyo Grande Lodge of Masons, and both Mr. and Mrs. Heinrich belong to the Eastern Star. He is also a member of the Hermannsoehne Lodge. He has been successful, and is a staunch advocate of all movements to build up the county. Both he and his wife are highly respected by all who know them.

**RUDOLPH VASQUEZ.**—A native son of San Luis Obispo County, and one of the representative men of the Coast section, Rudolph Vasquez first saw the light of day on July 4, 1858, on the Chorro ranch. His father, Jose Antonio Vasquez, was born in Monterey about 1805, and his grandfather came to Monterey among the first Spanish settlers there, arriving by way of Cape Horn. After reaching their destination, they engaged in the stock business, that being the only industry known to the settlers at that time, and their cattle had an extensive range upon which to feed. He was the owner of a large grant of land.

Jose Antonio Vasquez was reared in Monterey, and spent his early life at home assisting with the extensive stock interests carried on by his father. Later he served in the Mexican War. Governor Pio Pico gave him the Chorro grant of land close to San Luis Obispo and extending towards the northwest, and there Mr. Vasquez embarked in the stock business with more than ordinary success. Finally, he lost this land by going on another man's note.

Rudolph Vasquez is the only son left of a large family of ten boys and eleven girls. Two of his sisters are also living. He attended school but a few days, for he was only three years old when his father lost his land, and he had to go to work when he was very small to assist in the support of the family. He lived at home until the death of his father, and cared for stock on the ranch of one hundred and sixty acres of government land that his father had taken up. The dry years came, and his father lost this, also, together with his stock.

Rudolph Vasquez worked among cattle and sheep years and then learned the barber's trade in San Luis Obispo, after which he came to Cambria, in 1889, and opened a barber shop, and has since followed the trade.

Mr. Vasquez was married in Cayucos to Mrs. Modesta (Castro) Martin, a native of San Luis Obispo County, the daughter of Blas and Refugio Castro, born in Spain and California respectively.

Mr. and Mrs. Vasquez are very charitable and kind-hearted, and besides a stepdaughter they have raised and educated four orphaned girls. Mr. Vasquez is well liked by all who know him and takes a pride in the fact that the success he has achieved has been of his own making; and as far as his finances

will permit, he supports all public movements that will build up the county. He is a member of the Foresters of America, and in matters of politics believes that the principles of the Republican party are for the best interests of the greatest number.

**NORMAN F. FRICK.**—The son of a pioneer of 1849, and himself a pioneer of 1876, Norman F. Frick has played an important part in the upbuilding of this part of the state of California. He has been successful as a rancher, and as a brick and stone mason. He was the first man to burn lime for commercial purposes in this part of the county, and in many other ways has become one of the well-known citizens of this county. He was born in Buffalo, Erie county, N. Y., November 6, 1841, a son of Abraham and Mary (Cowell) Frick, both natives of the state of Pennsylvania. The father went to Erie county at the age of eighteen, and in 1842 removed to Rockford, Ill., and located on a farm on the Kishwaukee river. There he carried on general farming until 1849, when he outfitted with ox teams and came across the plains in search of gold. After following mining for a time, he turned his attention to farming in Santa Cruz county, afterwards removing to San Luis Obispo County. He located at Oak Flat and died there at the age of eighty-three years. His wife died in Dakota. They became parents of seven children, three of whom are now living.

The fourth child in the family of seven children, Norman F. Frick was reared in Illinois and there attended the common schools. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company D, 11th Illinois Volunteer Infantry, was mustered in at Birds Pt., Mo., campaigned in Missouri, and afterwards took part in the engagements at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, and the siege of Vicksburg. He was in the charge on May 22, 1863, was wounded in the right arm, and then for three months was in the hospital at Millikens Bend and for twelve months in the hospital at Keokuk, Ia. In August, 1864, he was mustered out at the expiration of his term of service. After the war, he was for a year at the Rockford high school, and in 1865 he went to Butler county, Ia., where, on September 11, 1866, he was married to Miss Martha A. Butcher, a native of Burlington, N. J. She was a daughter of Morris and Sarah (Morris) Butcher, born, respectively, in Burlington, N. J., and Philadelphia. The former was a member of the Society of Friends. They were pioneers of Butler county, Ia., where the father was a carpenter and builder, as well as a farmer. He later moved to Kansas, and there he farmed in Labette county until he died. Six children were born to them, Mrs. Frick being the eldest. She received her education in New Jersey and Iowa, and taught school in Iowa for two years, until her marriage.

After his marriage, Mr. Frick farmed in Butler county. He also ran a lime-kiln and made the lime for his vicinity. Later, about 1871, he removed to Osceola county and took up a homestead of one hundred sixty acres, which he improved. For two successive years, however, he was eaten out by grasshoppers, and in 1876 he sold out and came to California. His father resided on the Huerfuer, three miles east of what is now Paso Robles. Mr. Frick bought a ranch in Oak Flat and improved it, clearing it of brush, trees and poison oak, and broke the land and raised grain and stock. He found a ledge of limestone on the ranch, built a kiln and burned lime, furnishing it for eight years to San Luis Obispo and also to the building trade of Paso Robles. This business he continued until 1896, when he



Martha Fick      W. F. Fick



bought his present place and built his residence on Spring street, Paso Robles. At times he works at the trade of brick and stone mason, and although well along in years, is able to do a good day's work. Since 1876, Mr. Frick has been "water-witching" in this part of the county, and has had wonderful success in locating water wells. He is the owner of several lots and two residences in Paso Robles.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Frick the following children were born: Nettie, Mrs. Leonard, of Hoquiam, Wash.; Mattie, Mrs. Rowland, of Prescott, Ariz.; Mary, Mrs. Zwinge, of San Andreas, Cal.; Eber, who died, aged twenty years; Reu, in Golconda, Ariz.; and Etta, Mrs. Porter, of Hoquiam, Wash. Mr. and Mrs. Frick are members of the Christian Church, and he is an elder and member of the board of trustees. On September 11, 1916, this worthy couple celebrated, with their children, the anniversary of their marriage fifty years ago. On this occasion a brother of Mr. Frick who had witnessed the marriage in Iowa was present. A most pleasant time was enjoyed by all. Mr. and Mrs. Frick are well known throughout this part of the county; and they have a host of friends, who respect them for their strength of character and for their kindness of heart. They try to live by the Golden Rule.

**FRANK E. BENNETT.**—The present efficient mayor and prominent business man of Arroyo Grande, Frank E. Bennett, has won his own way to success, for he started out at an early age and has been self-supporting ever since. He was born in Detroit, Wayne county, Mich., August 17, 1861, a son of Joseph J. and Mary (Hopkins) Bennett, both born and reared in that state. The father was a farmer, and served with honor in the Civil War with the 27th Volunteer Michigan Infantry.

Frank Bennett attended school in his home town until fourteen, when he went to Coffey county, Kan., with his parents, and assisted with the farm work until he came to California in 1883. Stopping in Arroyo Grande, he found work on the ranches in this section for four years; and having made a little start, he leased land in the Oak Park district and farmed a few years.

Then he moved to Arroyo Grande, and was employed in the Labor Exchange General Mercantile Store as a clerk for two years. In 1900 he became the store manager and held that position three years, when he resigned and on October 5, 1903, started in a small way for himself. As his business increased, he found that he needed larger quarters; and so he moved to his present location in 1909, where he has modern equipment and has greatly increased his trade. He is obliging and courteous, and endeavors to supply the wants of the most fastidious.

On November 30, 1887, Mr. Bennett was united in marriage with Miss Effie L. Stevenson, a native of Illinois, who came to Arroyo Grande with her parents in 1884. They have had four children: Clara, the wife of F. S. Clevenger; Ralph M.; Esther May; and Edwin S.

Mr. Bennett is a Democrat. He served as constable eight years, and at the time the town was incorporated, in 1911, he was elected mayor, in which office he is serving at the present time. He is vice-president of the Mohawk Crude Oil Company of Arroyo Grande, is a member of and has passed all the chairs in Arroyo Grande Lodge No. 100, Knights of Pythias, and is Grand of Camp 675, Woodmen of the World.



**MATTHEW THOMAS PEPPARD.**—Nova Scotia has furnished many good citizens to California, and among them mention may be made of Matthew T. Peppard of Cambria. He was born on the Bay of Fundy, October 9, 1873, a son of George and Mary Ellen (Yuill) Peppard, both born and reared on that bay, the latter having been born in January, 1843. The Peppard family are traced back to Normandy, France, while the Yuill family are of Scotch descent. George Peppard was a man of fine physique, six feet seven inches tall, and very strong. He had been known to lift six hundred pounds with ease. He was a machinist by trade. He came to California in an early day and traveled over the country with a view to finding a location that appealed to him better than his own locality.

He soon returned home, and in the town known by the names Grate Village and Londonderry he opened a machine shop, where he employed a large force of experienced men. He was likewise a pattern-maker, and in one year's time had made all the castings for eighteen ships besides all other work that came to his shop. He was a successful man and built up a very profitable business. His death occurred from an accident in the machine shop in 1877. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Peppard continued to manage the business with the aid of a competent foreman until the building and contents were destroyed by fire, causing an almost total loss. In 1884, Mrs. Peppard decided to come to California, and with her three children located in Cambria, San Luis Obispo County; and here she spent her last days with her sons, dying here in 1909.

Matthew T. Peppard received a public school education in Nova Scotia and Cambria, where he attended school for a short time after coming here with his mother. He went to work on a dairy ranch that was located on the present site of the Oceanic Mine, and remained there two years. For the next few years he was employed for wages on various ranches in this section of the county, and after he had saved enough from his earnings, he leased land and tried dairying for himself with good success.

In 1900, he bought six hundred and eighty acres of land on the headwaters of Santa Rosa creek eleven miles above Cambria, the nucleus of his present ranch, and continued dairying and raising stock; and from time to time he added to his holdings until he is now the owner of thirteen hundred ninety-two acres of land, a part of which he has improved and has under cultivation. At one time the showing of oil was thought to be favorable, and Mr. Peppard sunk a well; but not realizing his expectations, he abandoned the project. He is now engaged in raising cattle. The place will keep about two hundred head of stock. It is well watered by numerous springs and creeks, and is considered an excellent stock ranch.

On August 17, 1910, near Campbell, Santa Clara county, occurred the marriage of Mr. Peppard with Miss Lela Oliver, who was born in Lima, Adams county, Ill., and came to California with her parents, David Ross and Stacy Oliver, now horticulturists near San Jose. Mrs. Peppard is a graduate of Campbell high school and the San Jose State Normal, and was engaged in teaching at Mammoth Rock school in San Luis Obispo County until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Peppard have one daughter, Maristacia.

Mr. Peppard is a man of striking appearance and of large physique, and like his father is noted for his strength. He takes a very active interest in all things coming to his notice that have for their object the promotion of the

welfare of the county in which he has prospered. He has given his personal attention to his affairs, and is recognized as a man of integrity and thrift, and has a host of friends.

**JOHN CHRISTENSEN.**—A native of Germany, born in Schleswig, Sattrup, November 4, 1863, John Christensen, a much respected citizen of San Luis Obispo County, has experienced many hardships during his years of farming in this country. He was the son of Christ and Ingebourg (Hansen) Christensen, both natives of that part of the country. The father was a soldier in the Danish army, fought in the war with Germany, and served in the French and German war in 1870. He lived through both wars and died in July, 1913, aged 73 years. His widow is still living at their home in Germany, aged about 77 years.

John Christensen was the third child in the family of eight, and had only a limited schooling, as the family were poor and each had to go to work as soon as old enough to aid in supporting the family. At the age of nineteen, in 1883, he left home and made the journey to California and San Luis Obispo County, where he had relatives. Arriving in June of that year he went to work at once and continued working for wages for various people until 1888, when he had saved up enough money to start in for himself. He rented land and raised beans the first year; then worked a season for Mr. Sandercock; and in the fall of 1889, he rented land again and raised beans.

But the rent was too high, and he moved to Laguna and leased ninety acres, which he farmed five years. He branched out to one hundred eighty acres, which he farmed for the next nine years, when the dry year came on and he lost all his crop and the money he had saved. He had purchased sixty-eight acres of land from McAllister while he was renting, and again in 1907 he added eighty acres. On his present home place, he owns two hundred twenty-two acres which he devotes to dairying, beans and poultry, and where he has been uniformly successful.

In San Luis Obispo, June 30, 1890, Mr. Christensen was united in marriage with Mary Nielsen, born in Schleswig, October 10, 1872; and they have five children: Christ, George, John, Christine and Arthur. Mr. Christensen is a member of the Lutheran Church and the Dania lodge. He and his family have the good-will and respect of all who know them.

**HOWARD A. GALLUP, M. D.**—Among professional men in Arroyo Grande none is more in touch with the general spirit of progress than Dr. Howard A. Gallup, who is well known as a proficient expounder of the principles of medical science. A native son, he was born in Santa Clara, February 19, 1884. He attended the grammar and high schools; and going afterwards to San Francisco, he secured a position as manager with the Building Supply Co., retaining it until 1907, when he entered Cooper College (now the Medical Department of Stanford University), from which he graduated in 1911. Then he entered Santa Clara hospital as house physician and remained there one year.

In 1912 Dr. Gallup went to El Segundo, Los Angeles county, as physician for the Standard Oil Co., and was also engaged in a general practice during 1912 and 1914.

In seeking an opening for himself, the Doctor came to Arroyo Grande; and being alive from the start to the opportunities offered, he at once opened an office, and began building up a practice which has been successful.

integral part of the progressive town. At the present time he is acting as health officer of the city.

He is a Republican in politics, although never aspiring to office. He is a Mason, being a member and (1917) Master of the Arroyo Lodge, No. 274, F. & A. M., at Arroyo Grande. He is a member of the California State Medical Society, of the American Medical Association, and of the Los Angeles County Medical Society.

On June 11, 1911, in Santa Clara, Dr. Gallup married Miss Maude Chase, a native of that city, and a lady of refinement. She and her husband are highly esteemed in the social circles of Arroyo Grande.

**ELERY BICKMORE.**—A citizen of the Morro district in San Luis Obispo County who commands the respect of all who know him, and who has made a success of his undertakings, is Elery Bickmore, a native of Morgan county, Ill., where he was born on March 7, 1836. When he was ten years old, his parents moved to Iowa, and on the frontier he received what little education he was privileged to obtain. Settlers were few and schools were widely scattered and very primitive.

When he was sixteen, in 1852, his parents decided that they would come to California, and outfitting for the long and dangerous journey with oxen and prairie schooner, they crossed desert, mountain and plain via the Platte river to Utah, and thence by the southern route into San Bernardino county. They settled in the part now within the borders of Riverside county, on the Rubidoux ranch just back of Mount Rubidoux, and engaged in farming. His father, Samuel Bickmore, was a native of Maine; his mother, Jane Hamilton Bickmore, was born in Indiana. Their marriage took place in Illinois. Samuel Bickmore died in 1862.

Elery Bickmore moved to Los Angeles County and farmed for a short time, and then went back to San Bernardino and engaged in teaming into the mountains. In that enterprise he continued until 1865, when he went to Watsonville and remained for two years. Again returning to San Bernardino county, in 1867, he bought seventy acres of land on the Santa Ana river and farmed until 1880, when he sold out and came to San Luis Obispo County, bought a ranch on Toro creek, farmed that for a time and then sold it. He then took up his residence in Oak Park, and for twenty-two years was engaged in ranching with good success. Once more disposing of his place, he returned to the Morro section and bought one hundred sixty-three acres on Morro creek, which he improved, erecting a good house, barns and outbuildings. He stocked the place, and engaged in dairying and farming. Now he and his sons are successfully maintaining there a dairy of fifty cows. In 1916 they completed a large silo, this being the second one to be built in this section of the county. They have erected a pumping plant and are raising alfalfa.

Mr. Bickmore was married in San Bernardino county, now Riverside, in November, 1876, Miss Sarah Jane Casteel, a native of San Bernardino county, becoming his wife. She is the daughter of James and Marinda (Weaver) Casteel, both Eastern people. Eight children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Bickmore: James, Marinda, Lucinda, Harry, Emil, Sadie, Sylvester, and Leonard. Mr. Bickmore cast his first Republican ballot for Abraham Lincoln in 1860. He is highly respected in his community, and his





*J. P. Nielsen.*

**JAMES POULSEN NIELSEN.**—A very enterprising and public spirited young man who is engaged in grain farming in the Shandon district, on a farm of four hundred eighty acres, is James Poulsen Nielsen. He was born in Borbjerg, Jutland, Denmark, February 2, 1886, the son of Niels N. and Kirstine (Jensen) Nielsen, both natives and well-to-do farmers and dairy folks of that country, and both now deceased.

James was brought up on the home farm, attended the public schools, where he received a good education in his own language, and after completing his school course, remained at home for a while assisting with the work. Then, having heard glowing reports of America, especially of California, he decided that he would come to this country. He knew that success comes to those who are not afraid of hard work, and finally, in 1908, he cast in his lot with the Pacific Coast.

Arriving here, he came to San Luis Obispo County, and in the vicinity of Union secured his first employment with Iver Iversen, after which he worked for Mat. Iversen, the present supervisor from this district. Two years were spent in learning the ways of the country and the language; then, in 1911, having saved some money, young Nielsen determined to start out for himself.

He bought an outfit and leased land from L. Lauridsen, and began raising grain; and from the start he was successful. In 1915 he removed to his present place, where he leases from M. P. Hansen and is farming in the most improved manner, raising about two hundred fifty acres of grain yearly, mostly wheat.

Mr. Nielsen has already acquired a permanent place with the people of this section as a steady, painstaking and reliable farmer. He is a Lutheran in his religious belief; and his political preference is for the policies of the Democrats. He became a citizen of this country in 1916.

**FRANK J. LYNCH, D. O.**—Those who have profited by his skill and know his many admirable characteristics, predict for Frank J. Lynch, Doctor of Osteopathy and nerve specialist, a continuance of the success and prestige he already enjoys in a professional career which has been far-reaching in its usefulness, bright with distinguished friendships and of more than passing interest. Dr. Lynch was born in Northampton, Mass., and educated in the public schools of his native town.

He first came to the Pacific Coast in 1878, spending sixteen years in California, Oregon and Washington. He then returned to the East, where he remained until 1901. In the meantime, he had graduated from the Littlejohn College of Osteopathy in Chicago and practiced for a time; but the call to California was once more too strong to be ignored, and we find him practicing his profession in Contra Costa County, at Danville, and later at Livermore, in Alameda County. Wishing to perfect himself in the profession, he went to Los Angeles to take a postgraduate course, which he completed in 1907. While in Los Angeles, he opened an office, and made some remarkable cures.

Then he came to San Luis Obispo, opened an office in the Commercial Bank building, and from the start was successful in the treatment of difficult cases. Since that time the doctor has been busily engaged, and although having many obstacles to overcome, he has built up a lucrative practice here.

He has prepared articles on osteopathy for publication; and is considered an expert. His thorough knowledge of diseases ranks him as a leader, and his ability is widely known throughout the county and environs. He has gained distinction in the treatment of paralysis and chronic and acute diseases, and numbers among his cures some very remarkable cases. Dr. Lynch is expert in physical diagnosis, anatomy and physiology. Osteopathy does not harass the ill body of the patient with drugs, but goes for practical development and for the correction of misadjustments that obstruct vital forces, and builds up the system of the patient.

Since coming to San Luis Obispo, Dr. Lynch has entered heartily into the social and civic affairs of the community, and is a valued member of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Merchants' Association. He was the organizer of the Municipal League and served as president; he was also president of the Good Government League and one of the organizers of the Civic Club of this city.

Dr. Lynch married Miss Mary Campbell, a native of Colorado; and they have two daughters, Genevieve and Elizabeth. Mrs. Lynch is very active in club life; she served as president of the Woman's Republic, and is a leader in social affairs in San Luis Obispo. Dr. Lynch owns a ten-acre pear orchard and some lots in the Atascadero Colony. He is always interested in every movement for the development of the county, and is a "booster" for the city of his adoption, where he is widely known.

**EDWIN S. WHITLOCK.**—In improving the western opportunities which have come his way, Edwin S. Whitlock, one of the substantial citizens of Arroyo Grande, has displayed characteristic enterprise. He was born in 1877 and came with his parents to San Luis Obispo when eleven years of age, locating in the Eldorado district between Pozo and Creston, where he attended the public schools and grew to manhood on his father's ranch. When he was twenty-one, he went to Kern county and was in the employ of Miller & Lux as teamster one year. Returning home, he and his brother farmed in partnership one year, but were not successful; and in 1901, Mr. Whitlock was employed for six months by J. B. Gibson, a contractor for preparing land ready for seeding. He then worked for L. C. Routzahn on his seed-farm six years, and learned that line of business.

But farming did not appeal to him, and he sought an opening in some commercial line. He therefore entered the employ of the Arroyo Grande Commercial Company, buying an interest in the business in 1907, and becoming treasurer and manager, succeeding A. M. Rayl. Under the efficient management of Mr. Whitlock, the business has expanded and now the establishment has a flourishing and constantly increasing trade, drawing custom from a radius of many miles in the surrounding country.

During 1917, it is expected that a suitable concrete building will be completed, 60x65 feet, to house the company's business. The present officers and directors of the corporation are: George Grieb, president; H. M. Adams, vice-president; W. E. Hixon, secretary; E. S. Whitlock, treasurer and manager; B. E. Patchett, auditor; Carl Fink and W. L. Edmonds, completing the directorate.

Mr. Whitlock was married in Oceano, October 10, 1911, to Annie Josephine Cambria, this county, and they have one son, Philip Edwin. Mr. Whitlock is a member and an elder in the Presby-

terian Church. He is a member of the U. P. E. C. and the Modern Woodmen of America. In all matters pertaining to the upbuilding of his home city, Mr. Whitlock has been a liberal supporter; and he is keenly alive to the possibilities of his section of the county.

**WILLIAM G. BURKE.**—Among the representative business men of San Luis Obispo County is William G. Burke, proprietor of the general merchandise store in Nipomo. He has been a resident since February, 1913, when he came to this place and purchased the general store conducted by W. A. Baumgartner at Nipomo. Besides the merchandise business, Mr. Burke buys and sells beans, grain-bags and barley. He has been meeting with deserved success since he came to this locality, where he enjoys the confidence of a wide circle of patrons and friends.

Mr. Burke is a native of Kansas, born in Burlingame, Osage county, October 8, 1868, and attended the public and high schools of that county until he was sixteen years old. His father, James H. Burke, was a merchant in Burlingame and it was but natural that the son should select a business career when he started independently. At the age of twenty Young Burke went to Yakima, Wash., and worked as a clerk for some time; then for eight years he was connected with the Northern Alaska Commercial Company, and was in Alaska in the interest of that concern.

While in that territory, on September 16, 1911, at Fort Gibbon, he was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Johnson, who was born in Blair, Neb., in February, 1885. Besides his commercial interests in this county, Mr. Burke has investments in the Iditarod telephone company of Alaska, and has mining interests in Amador County. He is deeply interested in the welfare of his adopted county, where he has been uniformly successful and where he has aided every movement for its upbuilding in various localities. He is affable and courteous, is a man of strict integrity and by square dealing has built up a good trade since becoming owner of his present business.

**PHILIP AND JOHN BIDDLE.**—One of the old and prominent residents of the Pacific Coast, as well as an upbuilder of San Luis Obispo County, Philip Biddle was well known through his accomplishments in financial and other activities, and was an important factor in the upbuilding of the state. He was a native of Pennsylvania, where his early boyhood was spent. At an early age he was orphaned, and his foster parents took him to France, where he attended school a short time and lived a few years; but not liking the country, he ran away and returned to the land of his birth, locating in Indiana, where he grew up. He married Rebecca Votau, a lady of French parentage. Of their union five children were born; Rebecca, who married and is now deceased; Mrs. Mary K. Plummer, who resided in San Francisco until her demise in 1901, and who was the first woman lawyer in California; Jonas, also deceased; John, deceased, who was a partner with his father in many of his financial ventures, as well as in manufacturing and in his stock interests; and Washington, now an aged man living in Tennessee.

After the death of his wife in Indiana, in 1849, Mr. Biddle brought his children to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. After a long and dangerous journey, in which many hardships were endured, they finally arrived in the state of "golden opportunity." For a time father and sons mined. Then they came to San Francisco, but, not finding con-



ditions to their liking, they went to San Jose and took up their abode in a rude log cabin. Here Mr. Biddle and his sons erected a lime kiln of brick, on the outskirts of the town, and began burning lime, much of which was used in the construction of pioneer buildings in San Francisco, as well as in other sections. The kiln is still standing and is pointed out to tourists as one of the landmarks of that section.

From this business Mr. Biddle became wealthy. He came to San Luis Obispo County in 1884 and invested in land, then selling cheap. His first purchase was of twenty-five thousand acres, to which he added ten thousand at a later date. He began raising cattle, and in time was one of the largest cattle men in this section. He met with reverses through dry years and by the depredations of cattle rustlers, but became wealthy and prominent, as well as a large holder of land. Eight thousand acres of the land is still in the possession of the heirs of Mr. Biddle. He lived on the ranch in the vicinity of Arroyo Grande until he moved to San Francisco, where his last days were spent in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest. After he left the ranch, his son John, with whom he was in partnership for years, remained on the ranch about one year and then moved with his family into San Luis Obispo, looking after the ranching interests from that place. He and his father carried on a private banking business, and loaned money, but never foreclosed a mortgage on a deserving man. After Mr. Biddle had become firmly established in the stock business, he became a partner with Mr. Newhall and raised large numbers of cattle on the California ranch belonging to Mr. Biddle. Those were the days when cattle were delivered to the markets on hoof, and it required diligent care to get a drove of stock to San Francisco without having the cattle thieves make raids on it.

Philip and John Biddle also engaged in the dairy business and raised, besides, many fine horses that brought good prices. Wild horses roamed the broad expanse of range before the fence laws went into effect, and there were many of them captured on their land and properly trained. Philip Biddle was a financier of more than ordinary ability, and it seems that all his operations were fairly successful. After he removed to San Francisco he still engaged in loaning money and became a prominent factor in the life of that metropolis, where he died. He was a Mason and a member of the California Society of Pioneers in that city. At his passing the state lost one of her most representative citizens, who had watched and taken a most important part in her upbuilding.

A worthy son of his father, John Biddle looked after the interests of their company and gave it his undivided attention. He was born in Indiana, and educated in the subscription schools of that period there on the frontier; and when his father came to California, he accompanied him and later was associated with him in almost all of his business enterprises. He remained in San Luis Obispo County caring for their large interests until he, too, passed away in 1892, aged fifty-two years. He was a member of the Odd Fellows and of the California Society of Pioneers.

John Biddle was united in marriage at San Luis Obispo with Miss Elizabeth Motz, also a native of the Hoosier State, who passed away in February, 1915, after a busy and useful life. They had four children—Philip, George, Minnie and John. The latter married Ruth Wilson and is now living on the ranch, while the other members of the family are living at the old home

place in San Luis Obispo, and are joint owners in the estate of some eight thousand acres of valuable range and agricultural land in the Arroyo Grande section.

Both father and son were men of note in San Luis Obispo County and very much interested in the welfare of the county and the people. They favored and assisted every movement that had for its ultimate object the bettering of conditions in general, and especially good roads, good schools and good government; though neither Philip nor John were aspirants for any political office, preferring to give their time to the stock interests in which they had made their financial success. They counted such men as John P. Andrews, H. M. Warden, Luigi Marre, the Steeles, Fred Wickenden and others as their intimates, all of whom helped to lay the foundation of our great state, and particularly of San Luis Obispo County.

**G. CONRAD GINGG.**—As might be expected of one who has spent his entire life in California, Mr. G. C. Gingg is a patriotic son of the Golden State and ardently champions all measures looking towards the development of the commonwealth. He was born in San Francisco, June 25, 1873, a worthy son of Swiss parents. His father, Jacob Gingg, came from his native canton in Switzerland at an early age and settled in Newark, N. J., where he followed his trade of butcher, which he had learned in his native country after his school days were over.

In 1868, having saved enough money to enable him to come to the Pacific Coast, he settled for a while in San Francisco, and there continued his vocation of butcher. Meeting with success, he embarked in business on his own account, and gradually branched out from the retail business into an extensive wholesale trade, buying and shipping. By giving close attention to details, he won success and a sound financial standing in that city.

In 1892, with his family he came to San Luis Obispo and here started the nucleus of the present prosperous wholesale and retail meat business known as the Gingg Brothers and Co. Market. Mr. Gingg was a man of enterprise, as is shown by his success, and made and kept his friends. He is a prominent member of the A. O. U. W. and of the Fraternal Brotherhood, and in politics is a Republican. He was united in marriage with Johanna Gerken, now deceased, and they became the parents of two sons and one daughter: G. Conrad, Herman H., and Mrs. Anita Bergk. As the sons grew to manhood their father took them into the business and taught them the details with a thoroughness characteristic of the thrifty Swiss, so that in time he was able to retire. Now he is living in Gilroy, having turned over the business to his sons.

G. C. Gingg was educated in the public schools of San Francisco, and while going to school would spend his spare time in the shop with his father, and in this way became familiar at an early age with almost all the details of the butcher trade, as well as the conduct of the business end of their extensive and lucrative concern. As soon as he was old enough, he took a very active part in the management and aided to a great extent in the upbuilding of the business.

In 1892, with the family, he settled in San Luis Obispo, and it is largely due to his executive ability that the business has grown to its present proportions. The family have always worked in harmony, and all have aided in making the business a pronounced success. In time they branched out from

the retail trade into a large wholesale trade, which is given every attention by G. C. Gingg. As manager of the business in San Luis Obispo, he is recognized as one of the most progressive citizens of the city, is popular with all classes of people, and gives personal attention to building up and holding their trade. In connection with their market, they conduct a large slaughter house located near the city, and all modern conveniences have been installed to make the handling of their product sanitary in every way, and to lighten manual labor.

Mr. Gingg is a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood, and is an Elk. Besides these fraternal organizations, he belongs to the various civic bodies in San Luis Obispo and is a supporter of all movements that have been promoted to build up the county and to make it a desirable place to live. His strict integrity and fair dealing have won for him many stanch friends, and have contributed to the building up of their business from year to year.

**J. H. FRANKLIN, M. D.**—During his residence in Santa Barbara county, J. H. Franklin, M. D., has become known as one of its able and skilful physicians, and by his genial manners and kindly courtesy has endeared himself to all classes of people. While devoted to his life work, the doctor takes great interest in the progressive movements of the day and his sympathies are as broad as humanity. He was born in Gilroy, the son of Warham Easley and Marion (Fife) Franklin.

Dr. Franklin was united in marriage with a native daughter, in 1916, Miss Claire Dolcini becoming his wife. He is a Mason, a member of the Blue Lodge and Chapter, and is also a member of the San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 322, B. P. O. Elks.

**HANS MEHLSCHAU.**—The Danish element in American life, which has done much to make this nation worthy the friendship and sympathy of all other countries, has especially worthy representatives among the upbuilders of San Luis Obispo County. This is noticeable in the successful career of Hans Mehlschau, who was born in Apenrade, in the province of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, January 21, 1866, where he attended the public school until he was fourteen. He was the youngest of five brothers, and his mother being dead, he had, as a lad, to make his own way in the world. He selected the United States as the scene of his efforts, and having relatives in San Luis Obispo County, California, immediately came here.

On his arrival in 1880, he joined his relatives at Nipomo and found work on the near-by ranches for about six years, acquiring rapidly a working knowledge of Spanish, English and German and thus becoming useful to his employers. When he was twenty, he had learned to speak English and had become familiar with the methods of the ranchers in this section of the country; so with the money he had saved, he was enabled, in 1886, to join his brother Andrew in a ranching enterprise. They leased land near Nipomo and engaged in raising grain and stock. This partnership lasted for twenty-two years, and as they succeeded financially, they bought land from time to time, until they had about 1000 acres of fine land suitable for raising grain and stock.

On September 24, 1908, they divided their property, stock and implements, Hans getting five hundred acres where he now lives. Since then he has added fifty acres and greatly improved his holdings, erecting a modern country residence, barns and other buildings. He raises grain, beans and stock, making

a specialty of heavy draft horses. Besides his own land, Mr. Mehlschau leases additional property and farms on a large scale.

On July 6, 1891, at San Luis Obispo, Mr. Mehlschau was united in marriage with Miss Maria Jensen, a native of the same province as himself, born in the town of Loit, November 17, 1867. She came to this country, with her uncle, in 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Mehlschau have had three children: Mattie C.; Flora H., who died aged sixteen; and Hans C., Jr.

Politically Mr. Mehlschau is a Democrat, and fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias. He and his brother are the only charter members left of Nipomo Lodge No. 164, that was organized in 1889, with about thirty-five members. Mr. Mehlschau is public-spirited, and is highly esteemed by all who know him. He has made his own way in the world since he was fourteen, and has been a resident of the Nipomo district since that time, and is counted among the pioneers of the county.

**JOHN HENRY BRADHOFF.**—A representative of the best type of citizenship, J. H. Bradhoff, banker and farmer, was born in Contra Costa county on September 17, 1869, a son of Henry Bradhoff, a farmer and pioneer of California of about 1859, who died on his ranch on San Pablo creek, Contra Costa county, in 1894. J. H. Bradhoff lived at home and attended the schools of Bay View and Alameda until 1887. Having learned the stock business, he came to San Luis Obispo County and secured employment with J. C. Baker, remaining six years; and with the savings of those years he leased the Baker ranch of two hundred eighty-seven acres, purchased livestock from time to time, and for two years was engaged in dairying and stock-raising.

In 1895, he bought the Graves place of one hundred acres on Santa Rosa creek, a mile and a half above Cambria, fifteen acres of which was bottom land, and here he erected a comfortable home and moved his family, October 16, 1895. At first he did a general farming, but later worked into the dairy business. For some years he engaged in breeding cattle of the Jersey strain, but of late he is breeding shorthorn Durhams.

In 1909 he bought from J. D. Campbell one hundred acres adjoining his ranch, and moved his residence onto the latter place, it being more central and on the county road. He has piped water from the springs on the Graves place, 2,500 feet. The water is very soft and as cool as the best mountain water. Besides raising stock, he has a dairy of twenty-five cows, and on thirty acres of fine bottom land he raises beans and is getting most excellent crops. On these ranches he has managed a successful business; and he has greatly improved his home place, until it is one of the best in this part of the county.

Mr. Bradhoff was united in marriage on September 15, 1891, to Annie Baker, a native of Sacramento county, and they have two children, Harry C. and Ethel. In politics he is a Democrat, and while never aspiring to office, has taken an interest in local politics. For several years he has served as a member and clerk of the school board of his district. He is a stockholder of the Bank of Cambria and has acted as its president since July 12, 1913. It is safe to say that there has been no enterprise, having for its aim the advancement of the county or the welfare of the people, but that he has given it his co-operation. He has a host of friends throughout the entire county, where he is well and favorably known.

**KNUD NIELSEN.**—The town of Paso Robles, with its various lines of activity, has drawn within its hospitable limits many men whose business capacity and fine traits of citizenship would be a credit to any community in the country. Among these men special attention is called to Knud Nielsen, a native of Denmark, where he was born on the island of Fyen, in the town of Oure, July 20, 1843, but who has been a valued citizen of the Golden State since 1874, and numbered among the successful men of San Luis Obispo County. His father, Niels Knudsen, was a farmer, and the son was reared on the home place and sent to the public schools of his vicinity.

In the spring of 1870, Knud Nielsen made up his mind that the United States held better opportunities, and he left home and finally arrived in Clinton county, Ia., in April of that year. There, he was engaged at farm work until in the spring of 1874, when he went to Nevada and was employed in a quartz mill until October of that year. He became salivated while working in the mill, and came to California for his health. He was in Sacramento for a short time, and then secured employment on a ranch in Yolo county near Davis. Mr. Nielsen saved his money and was soon able to purchase a team and engage as a contractor in hauling and teaming. This he continued for the following eighteen years, meeting with good success.

With his savings he finally came to San Luis Obispo County in the fall of 1892, and four and one-half miles west and north from Paso Robles purchased seventy-three acres of land, which he began clearing and putting in shape for grain. He continued in farm work until 1913, when he sold out and moved into Paso Robles. Here he bought three large lots, put up buildings and went into the poultry business. He has a small pumping plant with an engine, and raises alfalfa and kale by irrigation for his chickens, which are of the White Leghorn variety. Mr. Nielsen is busily employed with his new undertaking and has thus far made a success, increasing his number of chickens from year to year.

He is a great reader and keeps well posted on current events and general topics, but particularly on the raising of chickens and their care. His buildings are modern and sanitary. In politics he votes the Republican ticket. Aside from the places mentioned Mr. Nielsen has traveled into other states North and South, and his experience leads him to the conclusion that the soil and climate of California are most to his liking.

**JAMES C. AND NORA E. TANNER.**—A pioneer of the Morro section and one of the few original settlers left there, James C. Tanner has been successfully engaged in dairying and farming for many years. He was born at Richfield Springs, Otsego county, N. Y., March 3, 1851, attended the public schools and West Winfield Academy until he was twenty-one years old and then came to California and located in the Sierra valley for two years.

In 1874, Mr. Tanner settled in San Luis Obispo County on Old Creek, leased the Greening ranch and ran a dairy and farmed. In 1881, he bought five hundred sixty acres of land, it being part of the Morro and Cayucos grants, on Morro creek three miles from Morro, and here he raised stock, ran a dairy with success, and made every improvement seen on the ranch today. He built one of the first silos erected in this section of the county and demonstrated it a success. He has erected a pumping plant and is raising alfalfa. Mr. Tanner has given his personal attention to his interests, each year seeing him more prosperous and gaining in popularity in the county.



*Knud Nielsen*



## SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY AND ENVIRONS

On November 27, 1884, Mr. Tanner and Miss Nora E. Corey were united in marriage at Bloomfield, Sonoma county, and they have seven children: Isabelle, Ella, George, Clifford, Rudolph, Chester and Ervin, all living and enjoying educations that well fit them for positions in life. Mr. and Mrs. Tanner are among the best-known pioneers of the county. They are much interested in public and social affairs.

Mrs. Tanner, who was born in San Rafael, Marin county, on June 28, 1858, is the daughter of a California pioneer, Noah Corey, who was born in Canada on November 14, 1828, and was reared on a farm until January 1, 1852, when, with a brother, he set out for California via Panama, arriving at Clark's Point on February 26. The brothers engaged in contracting for supplies and logs for a sawmill, and later leased a ranch and went into dairying. In 1853, they removed to San Francisco and borrowed an old schooner to go south for provisions; but a storm arose and they had to abandon the craft, narrowly escaping drowning, from which they were rescued by a surveying party who happened to be near. They landed at Point Reyes, and made their way to their ranch much poorer financially. They ran the first dairy of American cows in Marin county till 1861.

Noah Corey sold out and settled on a ten-acre orchard he bought in Bloomfield, Sonoma county. In 1885, he located in Monterey county, bought one hundred acres near Salinas and there resided until a short time before his death, on November 5, 1909. He was married in Essex, Vt., to Miss Sarah Potter, who died in San Luis Obispo County in May, 1904. Noah Corey was a son of Captain Reuben Corey, a native of New Hampshire, who removed to Canada, when a young man, and won there the rank of captain in Her Majesty's service. Eventually he came to California and settled in Sonoma county in 1856.

Mr. and Mrs. Tanner are members of the Presbyterian Church at Morro, being among the founders and builders of the church. He is one of the ruling elders of the church. Both have been members of the board of trustees of Excelsior school district, Mrs. Tanner being the present clerk of the board.

**ANDREW MEHLSCHAU.**—The substantial and well-to-do citizens of the vicinity of the town of Nipomo have no better representative than Andrew Mehlschau, who is actively identified with the agricultural development of this part of the county, and stands high among the keen, progressive ranchers of the locality. A man of strong individuality and excellent business ability, he has been identified with this section for many years. A native of Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, he was born on January 1, 1863, at Apenrade. He attended school there until he was fifteen, and then went to sea, where he began at the bottom of the ladder. As a sailor before the mast he visited many of the important ports of the world during the six years that he followed the sea, after which time he came to America, and soon after to San Luis Obispo County.

Arriving here in 1883, he worked for wages on a dairy ranch near Edna until 1884, and then went to Nipomo and for three years engaged in farm work. Then, with a brother, Hans Mehlschau, he began a partnership business on leased land near Nipomo and for the next twenty-two years farmed eight hundred acres to grain and general products. In 1906 this partnership was welded closer by the purchase of land, which was added to from time to time. In 1908 a division of property was made by the brothers, and they



and he added to the improvements on their individual holdings. Andrew Mehlschau erected his fine country residence in 1909 and is conducting a dairy equipped with all modern appliances and doing a general farming business with a merited share of success.

In San Luis Obispo, on August 6, 1892, the marriage of Andrew Mehlschau and Miss Lizzie Lorensen was celebrated. She was born in Schleswig-Holstein at the same place as her husband on May 21, 1872, and came alone to San Luis Obispo, where she had a sister living. They have eight children: Dora, Mary, Peter, George, Andrew, Christian, Meta and Elmer, all educated in the public schools of the county, where Mr. Mehlschau has served as trustee of Nipomo district for twelve years and as clerk of the board part of the time. Supplementing their public school course, Dora and Peter are attending the California Polytechnic at San Luis Obispo. Mr. Mehlschau is a charter member of Nipomo Lodge No. 164, Knights of Pythias, has passed through the chairs of the order, served as a delegate to the grand lodge in 1900, and for the past twenty years has been master of finance of the local lodge. He is public-spirited, generous, successful, and progressive, and has a host of friends throughout the county.

**FRED D. CROSSETT.**—In the life of this successful citizen of San Luis Obispo are illustrated the results of perseverance and energy, coupled with judicious management and integrity; for he began his independent career at an early age, and by close application to business has reached the enviable position of manager of the San Luis Obispo branch of the Channel Commercial Co. Mr. Crossett was born in Cedar Falls, Ia., January 8, 1870, a son of Andrew C. Crossett, who was engaged in the farming implement business in Cedar Falls. Fred attended the public school in his home town until he was twelve, completing his studies at the age of fifteen in Racine, Wis., and then went to Benzie county, Mich., where he was employed in the lumber business and in a merchandise store at Otter Creek, working his way from the bottom of the ladder to the position of manager of the store.

There he remained until 1897, when he came to Los Angeles and embarked in the confectionery business; and after one year he sold out and went to Santa Barbara. Here he bought out another confectionery business and under the firm name of Crossett & Miles carried on a successful business two years, and then, disposing of his interest, went into the chicken-raising business. This lasted only eighteen months, however, when he sold out.

In 1904, with the money he had saved from his various investments, Mr. Crossett bought an interest in the Channel Commercial Co. and started in as bookkeeper, two years later being made manager of the Santa Barbara branch and continuing for three years. In 1907 he became manager of the branch in San Luis Obispo. He has given his time and attention to the building up of the business here and by exercise of his executive ability has materially increased the business for the company in this section.

The Channel Commercial Co. was organized in Ventura, Cal., in 1896, by J. S. [unclear] of that city, who is now the president of the company, and W. [unclear] of Santa Barbara, secretary and treasurer. Their [unclear] 14x14; but since that small beginning the business [unclear] and now has a far-reaching effect on the commercial [unclear] California. They operate successful branches in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Ventura and Los Angeles, and have a floor

space of over seventy-five thousand square feet. The business has grown to very large proportions, and ranks high in the business circles of the state.

Since becoming a citizen of San Luis Obispo, Mr. Crossett has given his time and attention to the betterment of local conditions, has allied himself with the local commercial bodies for the promotion of the welfare of the business interests, and has won a place for himself as well.

In Empire, Mich., on April 13, 1896, Mr. Crossett was united in marriage with Mary A. Nichols, who was born in Ohio.

(Since the above writing, Mr. Crossett has been transferred to Los Angeles, where he will occupy a higher position with the Channel Commercial Co.)

**JOSEPH B. F. LEE.**—The representative of a prominent old family of Virginia, and the present manager of the Hearst ranch, Joseph B. F. Lee has made his influence felt in the county he has selected for his home. He was born at Wide Water, Stafford county, Va., December 6, 1878, and attended the public school of Fredericksburg, supplementing this with a college course preparatory to entering upon his self-supporting career.

At the age of seventeen he came to California, and in 1896 arrived in San Simeon and found employment on the Hearst ranch; and he soon became an assistant of Captain Murray Taylor, and later of A. Moncure, until 1908, when he succeeded A. Moncure, who had resigned, as manager. This position Mr. Lee has since held.

Mr. Lee is a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. Elks. He is a man of public spirit and a supporter of all movements that have for their object the building up of the county and the advancement of the welfare of its citizens. By his marriage with Julia Estrada, herself a native daughter, he allied himself with one of the oldest families in California.

**JOHN B. BERKEMEYER.**—The junior partner in the firm of Deiss & Berkemeyer has been a resident of this county since 1895, during which time he has identified himself closely with the commercial life of the city. He was born in Prussia, April 12, 1871, and when he was ten years old his parents brought him to this country and settled on a farm in Conway county, Arkansas. He was there reared, attended school and, until he reached manhood, helped with the work on the farm. It was in Arkansas that he married Lizzie Weber, who was also born in Germany. They have five children. Joseph, a salesman in the Fulton Market, was born in Arkansas; and Marie, Charles, Bernhardt and Francis were all born in San Luis Obispo.

In 1895, Mr. Berkemeyer came to California and, under his present partner, learned the trade of butcher; and in 1899 he bought an interest in the Fulton Market, where they carry on business under the name of Deiss & Berkemeyer. This shop, the oldest market in the city of San Luis Obispo, was established by a Mr. Fulton in 1872 and is located at 1019 Chorro street. Since the formation of the present partnership the firm have built up a splendid business, more extended than any other in the city, and the credit of Mr. Deiss.

Mr. Berkemeyer is prominent in lodge matters, and has passed all the chairs in the local lodge of the Knights of Columbus; he is a member of the Portuguese lodge, I. D. E. S., and of Hermann Sons. From 1895 until 1906, Mr. Berkemeyer also belonged to the volunteer fire department, Hose Cart No. 3. Since 1914 he has been treasurer of the Democratic county central committee. He is a member of the Catholic Church.

**ANTHONY F. McCABE.**—The late Anthony F. McCabe of the vicinity of Arroyo Grande was one of the upbuilders of San Luis Obispo County and also one of the pioneers of the state. He was born in Nova Scotia in 1828, and died in Arroyo Grande in 1902. His wife was born in the same place in 1831, and is living in Arroyo Grande at the age of eighty-five.

A carpenter by trade, Mr. McCabe followed his occupation in the East, and in the early sixties came to California via Panama and worked in the same line in San Francisco. He returned to his eastern home in 1870, and closed up his affairs; and with his wife and four children, he came back to this state and again took up his trade in San Francisco.

In 1871, in partnership with Mr. Murdock, he ran the Sulphur Bank Mines located on the banks of Clear Lake, between Lakeport and Lower Lake, Lake county. He later settled in San Luis Obispo County, where he again took up carpentering, and here he died at the age of seventy-four. He and his wife had four children: George W.; Linas A.; Mrs. Bertha Howard; and Bessie, who married Dr. Bynum, of Lake county.

**HARRY H. HOWARD.**—A native son of the state and one of the representative business men of Arroyo Grande, where he conducts a livery and transfer business, Harry H. Howard was born in Sonoma county, October 30, 1873, a son of Martin and Nancy (Bonee) Howard, the former a native of Kansas and the latter of Missouri. Both parents crossed the plains to this state, Martin Howard locating in Cloverdale, Sonoma county, after he had tried his hand at mining. There he followed farming, and later moved into Mendocino county, where he continued his vocation, and where he died. The mother crossed the plains when she was but five years old, and in this state was married to Mr. Howard. She is still living.

Harry H. Howard was reared on the ranch and attended the common schools of the state for a time, but had to go to work at an early age. In 1886, when thirteen years old, he assisted his grandfather, Hiram Bonee, to drive cattle, horses and goats from Mendocino county down into San Luis Obispo County, taking a month to make the journey. Mr. Bonee purchased one hundred acres of land from Steele Bros. near the station of Edna, and for ten years farmed with success.

Young Howard learned the trade of blacksmith, and in 1897 settled in Arroyo Grande, where for eight years he conducted a blacksmith shop in conjunction with a livery business. In 1905 he bought out the transfer business of Schow Bros. and has carried on the same ever since. He has thirty horse-drawn stock, and does general teaming and hauling throughout this section of the county, and has been meeting with success.

Mr. Howard married Miss Bertha McCabe, a daughter of a pioneer of San Luis Obispo County. She was born in Lake county. They have one son, Harold, attending the high school.

Mr. Howard is very much interested in the preservation of the data relating to the olden times in the state, for he realizes that, as the old-timers pass away, much valuable data passes with them from mortal ken. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and of the Native Sons of the Golden West. In the former lodge, he has passed all the chairs of the order. By his genial nature and business ability, Mr. Howard has built up a good business. He is highly respected in his section of this county, where he has many friends and is meeting with well-deserved success.





*J. S. Anderson*

**JOHN S. ANDERSON.** Somehow or other, whenever you happen anywhere upon a Swede, there you will generally find a high degree of industry; and, in most cases at least, and particularly in such as that of John S. Anderson, you will discover certain decidedly tangible evidences of reward for hard work and thrift. As an old settler who had much to do with making things as they are today, Mr. Anderson has toiled for years, and now in his later life he has the quiet, but deep satisfaction of having something to show for what he has attempted.

He began life on September 18, 1859, in delightful central Sweden, in the vicinity of the ancient town of Skara, and he had the good fortune to have as his mainstays and guides his father, Sven Anderson, a substantial farmer, and his mother, Maria Anderson, who are both now dead. Ten children were born to this Swedish couple; and four boys and one girl came to California. These are John S.; Charles, a farmer at Willow Creek; Herman, a farmer at Bethel; and Johnnie and Emma, who are with the subject of our sketch.

Born and raised on a farm, after attending the native school John S. Anderson served the regular time in the Swedish Army, and in the spring of 1883 came to America, to Minneapolis, where he found employment in Pillsbury's Flour Mills. Four years later he came to California, and soon after his arrival bought a farm of thirty acres in the Bethel district, on which he built himself a residence. With A. Johnson and J. Peterson he made brick in their own kiln, which they erected by the roadside on Peterson's place; and with these he built three houses, and helped construct the Swedish Lutheran Church at Templeton.

He cleared up his farm thoroughly, plowed it deep, and raised the finest of grain; and later he laid out twelve acres of orchard, where he grew the most luscious fruit. To his disappointment, however, he found no sale for the prunes at that time; and so he afterwards grubbed out the trees, and raised grain instead. Little by little he bought more land, until he came to own a hundred eighty-two acres, and today he rents other lands, planting the same to barley and wheat. His ranch is beautifully located, overlooking the Salinas valley, and is one of the most fertile and well-tilled farms in this section. For fourteen years he ran a steam thresher, but recently he disposed of his interest in the machine.

Mr. Anderson finds permanent satisfaction in the work of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Templeton, where he has been a trustee for several terms, the treasurer for the last six years and secretary in former years. On national issues, he is a Republican of the progressive type.

**ANDREW C. PETERSON.**—Among the farmers and business men of the county, Andrew C. Peterson holds the respect of all with whom he has ever been associated. He is a native of Denmark, born on the island of Lolland, March 12, 1846, the son of Christen Peterson, who owned and operated a grist mill in his native land: Andrew attended the public school until he was fourteen years of age, and then learned the miller's trade, serving an apprenticeship of three years, after which he worked in a mill in the town of Maribo. When twenty years of age, he decided to try his fortunes in the United States; and with his brother, left home and in due time arrived at his destination in Racine, Wis. His first work was on a farm, and then he was employed for a few months in a wagon shop owned by Fiske Brothers. He went to Oconto, Wis., and for a time was employed in a saw mill. Going

... lived in a hotel for one year, and then moved to Neegaunee, Mich., remaining for five years, three of which were spent working in a hotel. He then opened a boarding house with the money he had saved from his earnings, erected the building and for a short time prospered; but the panic of 1873 put him out of business and he lost all his money. He next went to Ashland, Wis., and then to St. Paul, Minn., working as a laborer at anything he could find to do.

Mr. Peterson tired of the strenuous life in the middle West and came to San Francisco in the hope of finding more lucrative employment. He landed there in March, 1875, and in July of the same year he arrived in San Luis Obispo County. His first work here was for J. H. Orcutt, near Avila. In 1876, he thought he would try farming for himself and bought three hundred sixty-four acres of hill land in the Bellevue district, and for the following ten years conducted a dairy. Moving to Irish Hill he leased land and for seven years continued his dairy business there. In 1895, he came to See Canyon and bought thirty-three acres of orchard and farm land, and remained there until 1907. In the meantime, by purchase, he added to his holdings one hundred forty-two acres of the Hampton place. Renting out his land in 1907, he moved to Oakland and lived retired for a time; but the call of the farm brought him back to his ranch in See Canyon in 1910, where he is now living among his pioneer friends, among whom he is highly respected.

Mr. Peterson was married to Annie K. Holtze, a native of the island of Lolland, who had come to Milwaukee, Wis., where their marriage occurred. They have two children, Albert James and Ella. In politics he is a Democrat, but he has never cared to hold office, although, while living in this county, he consented to serve as a trustee of Irish Hill and Santa Fe school districts, and has done much to maintain a high standard in those schools.

**JOHN H. BRAINARD.**—Many of the successful men in California have come from the East when very young, and have grown up with the spirit of development here and so have become a part of the ever-changing West. No better example is offered than in the life of J. H. Brainard of San Luis Obispo. He was born in Lake county, Ill., March 7, 1856, and in 1864, when but eight years of age, was brought by his mother to this state, coming by way of Panama. They lived in San Francisco, where for three years the son attended school, and then went to Watsonville, where he completed his education.

His school days over, he went to work for wages. In 1875 he arrived in San Luis Obispo County, and the first three years he worked in a dairy, later farming for himself. In 1886 he went to the Estrella country and pioneered that section between Hog and Keys cañons. Here he owned six hundred forty acres, one hundred sixty of which was government land. This was in primeval condition when he arrived, and from time to time he added to the improvements until he got the land under cultivation. He raised grain and cattle for twenty-three years, meeting generally with gratifying success. Many years he got only fifty cents for barley and eighty-five cents for wheat, although there were some good years when he got \$1.47, \$1.50 and \$1.90 per cwt. He was one of the organizers of the Keys Cañon district school, and served as a trustee during the entire time of his residence there.

In 1900, Mr. Brainard leased out the ranch and went to Mountain View, Santa Clara county, to make his home, and there he engaged in raising fruit.

He later traded his fruit ranch for property in San Luis Obispo, and now owns some valuable lots in town. He erected three modern bungalows on part of his property and has his own home near by, a fine two-story residence. Since his return to San Luis Obispo he has sold his Keys Cañon ranch.

Mr. Brainard married Miss Julia M. Bagley, a native of Missouri, and they have three daughters: Mrs. Laura Wilhite of Armona, Cal., Mrs. Mira Mauerhan and Mrs. Ina Tucker, both of San Miguel. They have two grandchildren to brighten the family circle. Ever since becoming a property-owner here, Mr. Brainard has been very much interested in the development of the county, and has co-operated with all movements to further that ambition. He has made a success of his labors, and is much respected by all with whom he has come in contact, both in a business and a social way. He is living retired, except that he gives some time to looking after his personal interests. He is a Republican in politics, but never has sought office.

**CHARLES W. PALMER.**—A well-known and successful man of today, who takes an active interest in and is prominently identified with the commercial, political and social life of San Luis Obispo County, C. W. Palmer, county coroner, funeral director and embalmer, is a native of California, having been born in Marin county, May 10, 1872. His father, Wesley Palmer, was a native of New Jersey and a California pioneer of 1857. He settled in Marin County, where he engaged in the dairy business until 1874, when he located in San Luis Obispo County, near Cambria, and continued ranching successfully. He also has ranch interests at Templeton, and is now engaged in the undertaking business at Paso Robles. His wife, Clara (Tuttle) Palmer, was born in New York.

The education of C. W. Palmer was received in the public schools of San Luis Obispo County and Heald's Business College in San Francisco, after which he was employed in Oakland with a grocery concern. Going to San Miguel, Mr. Palmer became manager of the Farmers' Alliance Warehouse Company in 1894, and held the position until the fall of 1898, when he returned to San Francisco and was engaged with N. Gray & Co., where he learned undertaking and embalming. Mastering the details of the business, Mr. Palmer found an engagement in the United States Army transport service as embalmer, traveling between San Francisco and Manila during the Spanish-American War, after which he returned to San Luis Obispo County and, in partnership with his father, on March 1, 1900, opened funeral parlors in San Luis Obispo, in the Andrews Bank building, where he has continued successfully ever since. The parlors are equipped with every facility and convenience for the sacred care of the dead, and his exceptional courtesy and thorough professional knowledge have won for him substantial recognition in both city and county, where he is looked upon as one of the leading citizens, a prestige which has grown from year to year. He was elected county coroner in 1906; and during the ten years in that office has performed the duties in a most satisfactory manner, and has shown fine executive ability in handling county affairs.

A Republican, Mr. Palmer has been prominent in the councils of the party, while also active as a member of the Chamber of Commerce and Merchants' Association of San Luis Obispo, and a strong advocate of all public improvements. He is an active member of King David Lodge of Masons, Park Lodge No. 40, Knights of Pythias, the B. P. O. Elks, Order



of the Eastern Star, Woodmen of the World, and the Modern Woodmen of America, in all of which his participation is valued.

In 1828 Mr. Palmer was married to Miss Hattie Wayland of Gilroy, California, whose parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Wayland, were among the early pioneers of that section, and later moved to the southern part of Monterey County, where they acquired a valuable stock ranch near the Stone Cañon coal mine. Mr. and Mrs. Palmer have one daughter, Miss Helen Palmer.

**JOHN LINCOLN OILAR.**—One of the earliest settlers in San Luis Obispo County was John Lincoln Oilar, born October 17, 1814, at Dayton, O. His mother, Bathsheba (McGlamery) Oilar, was born in Virginia, November 9, 1770, and died on July 28, 1862, at Lafayette, Ind., being over ninety-two years of age. His father, Henry Oilar, was born in Baltimore in 1776. He was frozen to death near Lafayette in 1839, while on his way to visit his son, Col. Henry Oilar, of the Blackhawk War.

John Lincoln Oilar married Katherine Wiggins, December 24, 1851, at Beardstown, Ill., she being his second wife. She was born in Kentucky, June 13, 1824, her father being Thomas Wiggins, a native of Charleston, S. C. When John L. Oilar was a boy of fifteen, he helped his father haul the lumber to build the first weather-boarded house in Chicago, in 1829. On his father's farm at Lafayette is now built Perdue University. In 1840 he was elected to the Indiana legislature and served one term. On April 28, 1854, he started across the plains with an ox team, bound for California, and reached Suisun on August 25, 1854. In 1856 he returned for his wife and infant son, Marion, and the same year came back to California, making the trip both ways via Panama. It was probably at Panama that Mr. Oilar met John Slack, who had lost his gold when the "Yankee Blade" was run ashore, to which Mr. Slack refers in his own story.

In 1863 Mr. Oilar went to Virginia City, Nev., and for two years engaged in freighting for the mines, after which he returned to Chico. The son, Marion, died on November 7, 1865; and the youngest son, Henry Davis Oilar, was born at Chico, January 11, 1866. In 1867 Mr. Oilar settled on one hundred sixty acres of government land on San Bernardo creek, and for nineteen years resided there, building a fine house and carrying on a prosperous dairy and ranch business. There he helped organize Mountain View school, of which he was a trustee for six years. J. L. Rains was the first teacher employed.

In 1886 Mr. Oilar sold the ranch to George Freeman, and his son Henry Davis Oilar purchased the old Roxana Spooner place in the town of Morro, where his parents lived until their death. Mr. Oilar was always "Uncle John," and Mrs. Oilar "Aunt Kate," to the younger generation, their home being known to all for its kindly, open hospitality.

Mrs. Oilar died on June 3, 1897, at Morro, and Mr. Oilar on January 2, 1902. Both are buried in a beautiful mausoleum erected by their son, Henry D. Oilar, in the Odd Fellows Cemetery at Cayucos.

There were six children by the first marriage, three sons and three daughters, who grew up with relatives in the East. The Oilars are a long-lived race, coming from sturdy pioneer stock. John Lincoln Oilar's grandmother, a Miss Montgomery, born in Scotland, lived one hundred fifteen years, seven months and fifteen days. She married an Irishman, named McGlamery, and was a sister of Abraham Lincoln's grandmother.





*George L. Andrews.*

**GEORGE LESLIE ANDREWS.** That it makes little or no difference under what conditions a man labors, provided he be master of his handicraft and rich in the particular experience needed for success in his chosen field, is shown in the career of George Leslie Andrews, once a prosperous farmer and stockman in Monterey county, and of recent years equally fortunate in the same undertaking in Cholame. Born in Nebraska City, Neb., on February 20, 1865, George was the son of Nathan David Andrews, a New Yorker, who was reared in Pennsylvania and who later came to Nebraska as a farmer. In 1868, the father crossed the plains with teams of horses; and the same fall his family joined him by rail. The following year he settled in San Luis Obispo County, near Morro, where he engaged in general farming. He then came to what is now Stone Cañon, Monterey county, in 1878, and bought there a homestead. He was interested in stock-raising until he retired, about fifteen years ago, to Paso Robles. In September, 1915, he died in his eighty-seventh year. His mother was Amanda Covert, a native of Ohio, where she married. Afterwards she removed to Iowa and Missouri, then to Nebraska, and back to Morse City, Iowa. She died near Stockton, the mother of five children, four of whom grew up. The only one living is the subject of our sketch.

Coming to California in the fall of 1868, George was educated at the public school near Morro, and in San Luis Obispo, and finally in Slack Cañon, in Monterey county. Meanwhile, from a lad, he was learning the stock business and farming. In the capacity of a young rancher, he traveled through various parts of the state, and when twenty-one took charge of the home place of six hundred forty acres. He also rented other land, and went in for cattle- and hog-raising. As the years passed, he became owner of the old home of three hundred twenty acres, and still owns the place, although he has sold off six hundred forty acres of other land he owned.

In 1911, having sold out much of what he possessed, he bought, in the Cholame country, a ranch of thirteen hundred fifty acres, which he devoted to the raising of grain, cattle, mules, sheep and hogs. Five hundred acres is tillable, and he puts in about four hundred acres to wheat and barley.

In Gilroy, George Andrews was married to Miss Isabelle Easton, a belle of the town, by whom he has had four children: Charlotte Amy, who has graduated from the San Jose State Normal and is a teacher at Cholame; Sherman A., who assists his father on the farm; Jemima, who attends the San Jose State Normal; and Sibyl A., who is in the high school at San Jose. Made a Mason in the San Miguel Lodge, No. 285, F. & A. M., Mr. Andrews was Master for three years in succession. He also belongs to the O. E. S. and to the Knights of Pythias, of Paso Robles. In politics he is a Democrat, and has been a member of the County Central Committee.

**CARMÍ W. REYNOLDS.**—It is to the native sons that the future prestige of the state is intrusted, and there are hardly any who have been interested in the present development who cannot see the possibilities of the future. To these Carmí W. Reynolds is no exception. He was born in San Luis Obispo County, March 1, 1878, near the site of the tank farm. His father was Henry Clay Reynolds, a native of New York, born in Chenango, Broome county, December 27, 1846. He worked on the home place until seventeen years of age; and then, in 1863, enlisted for service in the Civil War in Co. B, 2nd Wisconsin Cavalry, and served fifteen months. Soon after

his discharge, came to California, to Monterey county, where he engaged in farm work until 1869. Then he came to San Luis Obispo county and farmed for himself near town until his death, June 9, 1884. On November 1, 1874, in San Luis Obispo, he had married Rebecca J. Love, who was born in Napa county, December 6, 1854, a daughter of William Love, a pioneer who crossed the plains in 1854, settled in Napa county and was engaged in farming successfully until his death, on September 13, 1860.

Carmi W. Reynolds is the second child in the family of four born to his parents, and he had the advantages of the public schools until he was fifteen, when he went to work for William Sandercock as driver of a transfer wagon, in which position he remained for six years. He then worked a short time for the Southern Pacific Railroad, and later was employed by the Southern Pacific Milling Co. The first year he worked in the yards, and then he entered the office as bookkeeper and remained until 1907, when he was promoted to the position of manager, which he has since held with credit to himself and satisfaction to his superiors. Besides attending to that business, he has interested himself in local affairs. He is a member of Chorro Lodge No. 168, I. O. O. F., and of the Rebekah Lodge, San Luis No. 210.

On September 24, 1905, in San Luis Obispo, occurred the marriage of Carmi W. Reynolds with Miss Lovis S. Whitledge, who was born in Kentucky and came to this city with her parents in 1902.

**HORATIO M. WARDEN, JR.**—The extensive enterprises in which Mr. Warden successfully engages have been rendered possible by his own keen business talents, as well as by the shrewd foresight and wise investments of his father, the late Horatio Moore Warden, who is remembered as one of the capable pioneers of San Luis Obispo County and is mentioned at length in another part of this history. In this county, where he was born July 3, 1886, on the Highland Ranch, the Warden home place, Horatio M. Warden, Jr., received the rudiments of his education in the public schools, and the knowledge thus acquired was supplemented by attendance at Santa Clara College near San Jose. He also spent one year as a student in the San Luis Obispo Business College.

After leaving school, he became associated with his father in business in 1906, familiarized himself with the details of his extensive farming interests, and assisted in bringing to a high state of development the Highland Ranch, of which he is now proprietor, and which is known as one of the show places of the county. Mr. Warden has continued the stock business carried on by his father with up-to-date methods and is enjoying a high degree of success.

In August, 1908, Mr. Warden was united in marriage with Miss Georgie Lilly of San Jose; and they have three sons: Horatio M., III; Robert Donald; and Frank. Mr. Warden is an active member of San Luis Obispo Lodge, B. P. O. Elks, and of the Woodmen of the World. After the death of his father, he became vice-president and manager of the H. M. Warden Co., and is directing its operations with fine business ability. No citizen of the county is more solicitous for its welfare than is Mr. Warden, who has won recognition for himself and is building wisely and well. Like his parents, the late H. M. Warden and Mrs. Queenie Warden, he is interested in everything that tends to promote the welfare of the county and the people, and he has a host of friends who appreciate his sterling qualities of manhood.

**MICHAEL W. PHELAN.**—The son of one of the pioneer families of San Luis Obispo County, and a man who has entered into the active affairs of his native section, as well as maintained the most helpful participation in the progress of the state, Michael W. Phelan, of Los Berros, was born on the old home place two miles north of Cambria, October 12, 1864. He attended school in the building that had been erected by his father for use as a schoolhouse, one of the first common schools started in the county; and after finishing the course, he went to Oakland and took supplementary work in St. Mary's college, graduating in 1885.

After that he returned to his father's ranch and, under his direction, learned the details of a successful farmer's life. Dairying and stock-raising were the principal industries, and in 1894, with a brother-in-law, A. McAlister, he engaged in the stock business on Carissa plains, renting property consisting of 5,500 acres, on which the "painted rocks" are located. There for sixteen years he did business on a large scale, when he and his partner sold the lease to the Miller & Lux corporation.

In 1906, Mr. Phelan bought five hundred acres near Los Berros, settled on his purchase and, leasing one thousand acres of the Dana tract and three thousand acres from Mrs. Kate Bosse, engaged in the stock business with growing success. Besides doing well financially, he has built up a reputation for fair dealing and good management, and today is one of the well-known stockmen of the county, being an expert judge of cattle who is often sought to pass judgment on stock. Mr. Phelan is interested in the home estate and in other tracts in various parts of the county.

At Los Berros, April 18, 1900, occurred the marriage of Michael W. Phelan and Miss Mary C. Donovan, a native of Monterey county, and they have three children—Dan J., Donald W. and Cyril A. M. Phelan.

**ALEX STIRLING COOK.**—In the life of this successful citizen of San Luis Obispo County are illustrated the results of perseverance and energy, coupled with judicious management and strict integrity. He is a citizen of whom any community might well feel proud. He was born March 20, 1861, in New Mills, N. B., a son of Alex Cook, who was born in the Island of Arran, Scotland, and with his father, John, migrated to St. Johns river, N. B. John Cook was a sea captain and master of vessels plying between the British Isles and different ports of the world in the merchant marine service. He was an officer in the British navy and lost a leg in an engagement, and died in New York after his retirement. Alex Cook was a lumberman in New Brunswick and manager of a large mill at New Mills. He sailed from there in 1867 for San Francisco; and coming to Cambria, San Luis Obispo County, engaged in the cattle business with two of his sons, later retiring to San Luis Obispo. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church and in New Brunswick had been supervisor for years. He married Mary Ferguson, a native of Arran, Scotland, whose father brought the family to New Brunswick, where he died on his farm. She died in San Luis Obispo, and was the mother of nine children, seven now living.

Alex Stirling Cook was reared in New Mills until five years of age. In 1867 he was brought by his parents to Cambria, Cal., by way of Panama. He grew up on the stock ranch, and was educated in the public schools, and also attended the Lytton Springs College in Sonoma county, graduating in

1881. He then returned to the ranch and worked with his brother Neil; and with him he later took over the home place and continued the stock business. They ran a dairy of seventy-five cows on the seven hundred eighty acres in Harmony valley. The herd were shorthorns, mixed with Jerseys. They panned the milk, skimmed it by hand, did their churning by horse power and worked the butter into rolls, shipping it to the San Francisco and Los Angeles markets. In 1898, Alex Cook sold out to his brother and started business independently in Green valley, renting the James Taylor ranch of six hundred acres and running a dairy of one hundred cows, with improved facilities. He had a separator, and churned by steam. He shaped the butter in squares and cubes, averaging therefrom nine hundred dollars income a month for nine months of the year. He raised beef cattle and hogs, and ran the dairy very successfully. In 1911, he sold out and located near Paso Robles, where he bought ninety acres on the state highway four miles south of town. There he is raising alfalfa, and has an orchard, and one of the best-equipped pumping plants in the county, with nine hundred gallons capacity per minute, lifting water only sixty feet from an eight hundred twenty-five foot well. All of these improvements he has made since he purchased the place. He also has a new residence, with all modern conveniences. Twenty-two acres of the place are set out to Bartlett pears, and the balance is seeded to alfalfa.

Mr. Cook was united in marriage in San Luis Obispo, in 1912, with Miss Belle Gage Walker, who was born in Michigan; and they have one son, John Stirling McDonald Cook. Mr. Cook was made a Mason in San Simeon Lodge No. 196, F. & A. M., the pioneer Masonic lodge in this county, and he is also a member of the Eastern Star chapter. He served as school trustee in the Harmony district for several years. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, of which he is an elder. In politics Mr. Cook is a Republican. He is alive to the needs of the community and is a supporter of all movements that will build up the county.

**WILLIAM HENRY AWALT.**—Statistics show that California has drawn a very great share of her population from the Middle States, and Iowa has her share of representatives here. One of the prosperous citizens who have made their success in San Luis Obispo County and claim Iowa as their birthplace, is William H. Awalt, born in Bloomfield, Davis county, on February 22, 1853. His father, William, a native of Tennessee, and his mother, Maria (Nichols) Awalt, a native of Indiana, were married in the latter state on March 28, 1841. The father came to California in 1884, settled in San Diego for a time, and then went back East to Missouri, and in 1888, after four years on the farm there, again came to California on account of ill health, and died on August 8 of that year. His wife had died on January 19, 1883. They were parents of nine children.

William H. Awalt attended the public schools in Missouri until he was sixteen years old, worked for his father on the home farm until 1877, and then started out for himself, moving west to Trinidad, Colo., working on the railroad and doing teaming for a year from Trinidad to Santa Fe, N. M. Returning to Missouri in 1878, he engaged in farming and stock-raising on land he had purchased, and continued until 1883, when he sold out and took charge of his father's farm and carried on the work until 1888.

He then disposed of what he had and came to California, and in the spring of the year located near Pismo, San Luis Obispo County, in the Oak

Park district, purchasing forty acres of land that was covered with brush and scrub timber. He cleared this and also engaged in teaming for eight years. In 1906 he leased his home place and went to McKittrick, Kern county, where he teamed in the oil fields for three years. Returning to San Luis Obispo, he retired from participation in active business to the enjoyment of his well-earned rest.

Mr. Awalt was married on June 19, 1881, to Miss Frances Ellen Brown, who was born in Illinois on May 10, 1868. They became the parents of seven children, all of whom are still living: Thomas H., Mary E., Nellie, Albert, Minnie, Elsa and Edith. Not having visited his old home in twenty-six years, Mr. Awalt took a trip back to Iowa, Illinois and Colorado, starting on June 12, 1916, and returning to his home on September 12. He had a very enjoyable time, during which he took notice of the growth and development of that part of the country since he left it for California, an observation, however, that left him more than ever impressed with his adopted home.

**OTHELLO CHARLES CONTERNO.**—Descended from a long line of military and musically inclined families, and himself a veteran bandmaster and musician, Othello Charles Conterno was born in Hoboken, N. J., June 10, 1868, a son of Octavio D. Conterno, a native of France but of Italian parentage, who brought him to New York, where he was educated in the public schools, and as a musician. The paternal grandfather of our subject was bandmaster in the U. S. Navy on the S. S. "Constitution" and on the frigate "Mississippi." The father served in the Seminole War and was wounded in the Everglades of Florida. When the war in which Garibaldi figured broke out in Italy, he went to that country and fought with that hero's army until the breaking out of the Civil War in this country, when he left Italy and returned to the United States, and took part in that struggle from 1861 to 1865, once being slightly wounded in action. After the war, he was mustered out and received his honorable discharge. At a later period, he enlisted and was bandmaster of the Third and later of the Sixth U. S. Cavalry, serving through the Indian campaigns, when he left the service on account of his wife's health. He resigned at Tucson, Ariz., and then came overland to Los Angeles with wagons and on horseback, taking forty-seven days to make the journey. Mr. Conterno settled in Los Angeles and was manager of Agricultural Park several years.

In 1876, at the Centennial exercises in Los Angeles, he led the orchestra and a large chorus of voices. He was professor of music in St. Vincent's College for years. At one time he was mining in Arizona, where he was captured by the Apaches; but being familiar with their habits—for an Apache won't kill his prisoner between sunset and sunrise—he stole out and made his escape in the night, finally returning to Los Angeles, where he again took up his work as professor of music at the college. In 1882 he went to Oakland as teacher and leader, and later moved to San Jose, where he died in 1903, at the age of sixty-seven years. He was a Mason, past post commander of the G. A. R., lieutenant-colonel Union Battlefield Veterans, and past great sachem of the I. O. R. M. of California, and was connected with other orders. His wife was Janette Beese, who was born in New Jersey of German descent. Mrs. Octavio D. Conterno now resides in Los Angeles and is seventy years of age. There were seven children in the family: Julius B., mining engineer, in Inyo county; Othello C., of the *Los Angeles Times*; Arthur D., of



county; Zola, Mrs. Santos, now with the Red Cross in Paris; Stella D., Mrs. Williams of Los Angeles; Eugene O., mining foreman in Inyo county; and Garfield James, a grocer in Santa Barbara.

Othello C. Conterno was brought up in different army posts until he was eleven years old, when he accompanied his parents to Los Angeles and was educated at St. Vincent's College, receiving his first lessons in music under his father, and then under various band leaders. Finally he went to San Francisco and entered the employ of W. W. Montague, in his stove house; and there he remained four years learning the different branches. In 1890, when twenty-two, he enlisted as a musician in the Second U. S. Cavalry, joined his regiment at Ft. Walla Walla, Wash., was then transferred to Ft. Lowell, Ariz., and in 1891 to Ft. Wingate, N. M., where he remained four years, and was then mustered out of service and honorably discharged.

Mr. Conterno then joined his uncle, Luciano Conterno, in New York City, filling an engagement of thirteen weeks as a musician, and then went on a concert tour with Conterno's Concert Band until the breaking out of the Spanish-American War in 1898. He enlisted as bandmaster of the First U. S. Volunteer Engineers under Eugene Griffin, and was sent to Porto Rico. He was mustered out, January 25, 1899. On March 19, 1899, he again enlisted in the 8th U. S. Infantry Regiment, was appointed bandmaster and on his arrival in Cuba served until July 19, 1900, when the regiment was ordered to proceed to China for the Boxer War. The regiment was sent to Ft. Snelling, Minn., to be recruited, and then proceeded via San Francisco to Nagasaki, Japan, where it awaited orders eight days. Meantime the situation cleared, and they proceeded to the Philippine Islands instead, serving from October 26, 1900, until July, 1902, when they were sent back to the United States at the close of the insurrection.

After returning to this country, he was sent to Seattle and a part of the regiment went to Alaska; but the remainder were at their headquarters in Ft. Lawton, Wash., and six weeks later they were sent to Governors Island, N. Y., and remained until February, 1906. They were then transported across the continent and again embarked on transports for the Islands. They were stationed on the Island of Guimaras, remaining two years, when they came back to the United States. He was stationed at Angel Island until 1908, and while there the regiment hiked to Atascadero to attend military maneuvers, taking the train back to San Francisco. In 1908, he went to Monterey, and in 1910 marched to Atascadero again; and on arrival back in Monterey he had orders to proceed to the Philippines, in March, 1911. Meanwhile the revolution in Mexico started and they were sent to the border instead, and remained there until June, when they returned to Monterey. On February 12, 1912, they started back to the Islands, and remained on the Island of Mindanao, among the savage Moros, for three years. On August 16, 1915, he was retired from active service, being given credit for thirty years' service

#### ST. PUNCHES

Mr. and Mrs. Conterno, in 1908, had purchased a ranch near Paso Robles, and they settled on it after his retirement and began raising stock and grain; and in the meantime he organized the Paso Robles Band, which now has twenty members, and is a splendid organization. It gives concerts in the city park. In 1916, Mrs. Conterno became proprietor of the Bon Air in Paso Robles, where they make their residence, while their son operates the

ranch, as he has done for the past seven years. During the Spanish-American War, Mr. Conterno's colonel wanted him to be mustered out with a recommendation for appointment to a commissioned office; but he declined.

In New York City occurred the marriage of Mr. Conterno with Miss Annie Wilderson, a native of Denver, Colo., who made the various trips to the Philippines with her husband. While at the post of Camp Jossman, Island of Guimaras, Mrs. Conterno was appointed and served as postmaster for two years at the request of Col. F. A. Smith, now Brigadier General, U. S. A., retired. They have one son, Herman B. Mr. Conterno was made a Mason in Hill Grove Lodge No. 540, F. & A. M., in Brooklyn, N. Y. He is a Republican.

**VERNON EXLINE.**—The environs of Paso Robles and portions of the town itself present many a pleasing and instructive picture, and nowhere will one be better rewarded for visiting this section and tarrying awhile than in the horticultural establishment of the enterprising young farmer Vernon Exline, where the orderly arrangement of everything suggests the orderly, well-trained man. It was on Levi Exline's well-managed place at Paso Robles, on July 4, 1879, that his son Verne, as he is familiarly called, was born. The public schools cared for the lad's education, and the environments of home were added to contribute to his development until he had reached his twenty-fifth year.

For nine years he raised grain hereabouts; then he bought two hundred acres adjoining his father's place and engaged in farming, horticulture, and grain- and stock-raising. Adjoining his father's three hundred twenty acres of land, he owns two hundred acres, about four miles northwest of Paso Robles on Gallinas (Chicken) creek. He has set out sixteen acres to almonds, and thirteen acres to Bartlett pears, and devotes the balance to the raising of grain and stock.

Independent in politics, he has been unusually serviceable as a trustee and clerk of the Oak Flat school district, while in the circles of the Knights of Pythias at Paso Robles, amid the more familiar exchanges of true and tried friends, are displayed to the best advantage the likable qualities of this well-liked gentleman and sturdy pioneer.

**JAMES F. CAREAGA.**—Among Californians who may feel a particular pride, both because of their participation in the present development of the Golden State and because of their association, through family ties, with the historic past, is James F. Careaga, a farmer and stockman residing nine miles west of Los Alamos. His father was Ramon F. Careaga, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this history. Mr. Careaga descends from an early Spanish nobleman, a native of ancient Castile, who came out to Mexico as a military officer in the service of the King of Spain. The grandfather was Colonel Satornino Careaga, who led a detachment of Spanish soldiers from Mexico on an expedition to Monterey. He served under Captain Munoz, and from him and the Spanish government received special recognition for bravery in protecting the endangered Mission San Jose.

Born May 1, 1889, one of eleven children, all of whom have grown to maturity or at least to promising youth, and most of whom have had a good measure of success, James Careaga farms with his brother, Bernardo F., some two hundred acres, and besides rents out and supervises seven thousand acres belonging to the Careaga estate. James F. Careaga maintains an enviable position as an up-to-date rancher of the coast section.

**J. THOMAS JONES.**—How affability, as well as experience and enterprise, may be made an asset even in business, is daily demonstrated by J. Thomas Jones, the extensive farmer and successful merchant of Shandon. He was born at Berryville, near Eureka Springs, Ark., December 10, 1869; and since the middle eighties he has been contributing no little to making Shandon and its neighborhood one of the most desirable places of residence in any of the agricultural sections of the state. His father was James L. Jones, a native of the same district, who abandoned his farm during the Civil War to fight on the side of his state in the Confederacy, as a sergeant of a company. He first came to California in 1856, crossing the plains with ox teams; but in 1859, anticipating the clash between the North and the South, he rushed back East again. In 1873, however, he brought his family to California and settled on a ranch near Cambria, later removing to Adelaida, where, in 1877, he bought another ranch. Seven years afterward he moved to the Cholame valley and homesteaded a hundred sixty acres, upon which he made extensive improvements. In 1909, he died at Paso Robles. Mrs. Jones, who died on the first of January, 1895, was born in Arkansas, grew up as Miss Catherine Emily Smith, and was married in Arkansas about 1853 or 1854. Of the five children born of this union, four grew up and are still living: James H., who is in Arkansas; W. H., who is at Parkfield, Monterey county; Molly, now Mrs. Rutherford, who is farming near Shandon; and John Thomas Jones, the subject of our sketch.

In 1873, J. T. Jones came with his parents to Cambria, and four years later he accompanied them to Adelaida. He attended the public school first under Prof. Phelps, of Cambria, and then under Prof. Parsons, of Adelaida. Having completed his studies, he worked one year for Mr. Burnett. In 1884 he came to the Shandon country and began riding after the stock and driving big teams. With his brothers, in a firm known as Jones Bros., he was interested in a threshing machine—the first steam thresher, as a matter of fact, in San Luis Obispo County; and the work of threshing he has followed ever since. In time he secured a combined harvester, and the last few years he has used two such machines, with which he has gathered the crops for his neighbors as well

as his own.

When twenty-one, Mr. Jones homesteaded a hundred sixty acres of land in the Cholame Hills in McMillan's Cañon, which he soon improved and built up, later selling the same. He then bought his father's place, improved it, and added to it, sinking a fine artesian well, and planting some eight hundred eighty acres to grain. He also raised horses and cattle. An incident indicating the quality of Mr. Jones' enterprise is found in an undertaking of the brothers rather out of the ordinary. When he and his brothers were threshing at San Miguel, and they noted the want of a hotel there, they built a hostelry and ran it for two years while the railroad was being constructed. Having rented and farmed still other land, Mr. Jones, in 1909, sold his ranch to Hopper Bros., and then bought a hundred ten acres adjoining Shandon, where he now makes his home and headquarters, and where he set out six acres of almonds, the first in this vicinity.

For some time Mr. Jones was interested in the Rochdale store, and when the Rochdale Co. disbanded, in 1913, he took over the business. With the aid of his wife and daughter, he has since conducted the popular establishment—the largest general merchandise store here. He continues renting



*J. T. Jones.*



lands, farming to grain and raising stock extensively, and he gives part of his attention to the Farmers' Alliance Business Association, of which he is a stockholder.

On November 11, 1892, John Thomas Jones was joined in wedlock to Miss Nancy C. Tomlin, a native of Cherokee county, Kan., and the daughter of George Tomlin, who brought his family to California in 1887, when she was seventeen years of age. He was a broom-maker and, locating in Bakersfield, he established a broom factory there. He now resides in Florida. George Tomlin served as a soldier in the Union Army during the Civil War. Her mother, who resides with the subject of our sketch, on account of her health, was Miss Mary J. Stockton, a native of Illinois. There were eleven children in the family. The children of Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas Jones are: Ethel, now Mrs. Hagerman, who is assisting in his store; Clara May, who is in the Paso Robles high school; and Stillman Edwin.

Mr. Jones has served as school trustee of the Shandon district. Politically, he aligns himself with the Democratic party. Fraternally, he is a member of the Santa Lucia Lodge, I. O. O. F., at Paso Robles, and of the Brotherhood of American Yeomen.

**JOHN CARROLL.**—A representative citizen of San Luis Obispo and environs, and a progressive man of his locality, John Carroll was born in Tipperary, Ireland, October 25, 1867, and until he was sixteen received his education in the common schools. He lived at home assisting his father up to the time he left for America in 1884. He had a brother and sister in California, located at Lompoc, Santa Barbara county, and that place was his destination when he and another sister left their native land. The opportunities offered in the New World for bettering his condition appealed to the young man, and he did not linger in his home country very long after making his decision.

He had no money on his arrival here, and so was compelled to go to work at any honest employment that offered, and he spent the first three years in this country working on his brother's dairy ranch near Lompoc. He learned the dairy business and became acquainted with the ways of the country, and soon took up work on the wharf, loading and unloading the vessels that docked there. This was continued for three years, and he then spent a year making cheese for his brother. In 1892, we find him a resident of San Luis Obispo County and employed on the ranch owned by his aunt, Mrs. Kate Donohue. He saved his money and rented a place of one hundred eighty acres, which he now owns; and there he planted barley and farmed. In 1906 he bought the old Kelly place of five hundred acres. From time to time he has added land, until he is the owner of six hundred eighty five acres, upon which he raises beans and barley with great success.

Mr. Carroll was united in marriage with Miss Frances T. Roselip, a native of San Luis Obispo County, and they have five children: John Jr., Dennis, Emmett, Catherina and Evelyn. In politics, Mr. Carroll supports the candidates of the Democratic party. He has served as a trustee of the Edna school district for six years. He is a member of the Knights of Columbus and of the Young Men's Institute, and a communicant in the Catholic Church. Among those with whom he has business relations, his word is considered as good as his bond.

**L. D. WALLER.**—One of the most lucrative and important industries that have come into existence on the Pacific coast during the last twenty years has been that of raising seeds of all varieties, and it has attracted men who are students of nature as well as strong business characters. Of the successful seed men of Santa Barbara county, L. D. Waller is among the best-known. He was born in London, England, and received a liberal education there, where he also took up the seed business and continued it until he came to this country to extend his operations if possible. He first stopped in New Brunswick, and soon after went to Boston, where, in 1906, he began a retail seed business.

Desiring to start a seed-farm for himself, Mr. Waller came to California in 1908 and looked about for a location for a time until he decided that the section about Guadalupe offered the proper advantages. He worked for others for three years in various places, and in 1912 interested other parties and under the copartnership of L. D. Waller & Co. leased fifty acres of land adjoining Guadalupe to grow sweet-pea seed, besides cultivating numerous other varieties of flower seeds. The next year their business doubled and from time to time they increased their acreage until they now have about three hundred acres under a high state of cultivation, and grow almost every kind of flower seed.

The Waller Seed Company do a wholesale business and have over six hundred different varieties of flowers on their ranch, specializing in sweet-pea growing. It is interesting to note the recognition given the firm's enterprise when they were awarded the silver gilt medal of the National Sweet Pea Society of Great Britain at the exhibition of the American Sweet Pea Society held at the Panama Pacific Exhibition, San Francisco, June 11, 1915, for their display of Spencer sweet peas. Mr. Waller is a public-spirited citizen and a supporter of all movements for the upbuilding of the country surrounding his home section. He keeps abreast of the times, and is one of the best-posted men in his line of business in this section of the state.

**JEFFREY PHELAN AND JEFFREY WILLIAM PHELAN.**—Although during the period of the early fifties California attracted many men of doubtful reputation, it has been the glory of the state that it also attracted thousands of young men, sturdy of frame, upright in life and honest in every transaction. To this latter class belonged Jeffrey Phelan, who was born in County Waterford, Ireland, August 13, 1824. He left Ireland in 1851, landed in New York, then went to Covington, Ky., where he stayed five months, and from there went to Salem, Ill.; and for three years he found work in the lead mines.

In October, 1854, he landed in San Francisco and went at once to Sutter's Creek, Amador county, and mined for another three years. In 1858 he took a trip back to Ireland, renewed home acquaintances for four months and returned to San Francisco in August, 1858; and coming to San Luis Obispo county, he located on a ranch two miles north of Cambria.

Jeffrey Phelan was married, in 1858, to Miss Alice Hearn, a native of County Waterford, Ireland, and they had three sons and three daughters, among whom was Jeffrey William Phelan. He and his wife were the first settlers in that coast section, before Cambria was started, and their oldest daughter was the first white child born there. Mr. Phelan helped build the first store and schoolhouse. His ranch contains seventeen hundred acres,

and he had a dairy of two hundred cows, besides owning about four thousand acres of mountain land. His death occurred on February 5, 1908.

Jeffrey William Phelan was born February 12, 1870, on San Simeon creek, and attended the public school at Cambria and also St. Mary's College in Oakland. When he returned home, in 1893, he went to work on the ranch with his father, and after the latter's death, in 1908, he and his brother, Richard, took charge of the home place and have since managed it for the Phelan Land and Cattle Co., incorporated after his father's death. They have engaged extensively in dairying and the stock business and have met with good financial success.

On November 24, 1899, Mr. Phelan was married to Miss Irene Dodson, who was born on Santa Rosa creek. In politics Mr. Phelan supports the candidates of the Democratic party.

**ERNEST F. CESMAT.**—The republic of France has given to the United States many of her best citizens, men who have become very successful and influential in the various localities in which they have elected to reside. California has had her share of these thrifty men, and they have adapted themselves to their surroundings and have aided every movement for the upbuilding of the state. In Ernest F. Cesmat, San Luis Obispo County has a solid, substantial citizen. He was born in Eastern France, near the Alpine mountains, December 11, 1862, and was reared to farm work on the place owned by his father. He attended the public schools of his native place until he struck out for himself.

In 1884, at the age of twenty-two, he came to California to seek his fortune in the land of opportunity. Locating in San Ardo, in Monterey county, Mr. Cesmat worked on a sheep ranch for the first eighteen months, and then at harvesting in the grain fields, and later on threshing machines, until he had saved enough to begin for himself. He bought the San Ardo hotel property, rented it out, and later disposed of it at a profit. He also leased one hundred sixty acres of land on shares for two years, and later increased it to three hundred acres, farming to grain.

In 1892 he disposed of all his interests in Monterey county and came to Los Berros, San Luis Obispo County, where he purchased twelve acres of land, and with a team of ponies cleared it of the brush. This he sold, and later rented a place near the depot. Going back to Monterey county, he worked in the harvest fields until he had saved three hundred fifty dollars; and with that money he came to Los Berros and bought the land he had rented. From time to time he has added to this until he now owns forty acres, which he farms to grain and beans; he also farms rented land near by, and is the owner of a cattle ranch of one hundred sixty acres in the hills, where he raises stock. In addition to this, he and his wife conduct a grocery store, and Mrs. Cesmat was postmaster of Los Berros for eleven years. On his hill ranch he cuts wood for market, and since coming to the county to make his home he has made a success of his operations.

Ernest F. Cesmat was married to Miss Emma Rodriguez, a native of Iowa, and they have two sons: Victor, of Modesto, who is married and has two children; and Raymond, who lives at home.

Landing in San Francisco with just ten dollars in his pocket, Mr. Cesmat has worked hard and is now one of the respected and prosperous men of his locality. He is a Democrat.



**RAFAEL A. MORA.**—A native son and a representative of an old Spanish family, Rafael A. Mora was born in Watsonville, Cal., April 27, 1870. He was a son of Rafael A. Mora, born in Guadalajara, State of Jalisco, Mexico, whose father came from Spain to Mexico in the pioneer days of the territory of California. Rafael Mora, senior, went to San Francisco as early as 1850, at a time when that place was small and little more than a tent city. He engaged in raising hogs on the present site of the town, and when the gold excitement took so many men to Mariposa county, Mr. Mora disposed of his hog business and tried his luck in the mines. But he did not meet with the success he had hoped for, and soon after opened up a meat market in the mining district, where he remained until about 1860. His next move was to Santa Cruz county, where he located at Whiskey Hill; and in 1874, he came to Cambria, San Luis Obispo County, and settled at the old Keystone quick-silver mine. There he engaged in the stock business and made butter, and met with fair success. He had taken up government land, but did not prove up on it, as he found that part of it was included in the Hearst ranch. He was married, in 1865, to Mrs. Francisca (Cole) Garcia, a daughter-in-law of the late General Inocente Garcia. Mr. Mora passed away in Cambria at a ripe old age, and was much respected by all who knew him.

The subject of this review was educated in the public schools of Cambria, completing the grammar school course at San Simeon. He worked in a general merchandise store during the years he was attending school, when it did not interfere with his studies, in order to assist with the support of his mother. He also worked four years on a ranch at Pozo for his half-brother. His first move for himself was when he formed a partnership with Albert Juarez, and leased three hundred twenty acres of land, of which they cultivated one hundred forty acres to grain, while the balance was devoted to the stock business. After one year, Mr. Mora sold out to his partner and for a time traveled over various part of the state working for wages and gaining a varied experience.

In the fall of 1897 he came back to San Simeon and for a period of six months took charge of the Bay View Hotel. Following this venture, he bought and sold stock throughout San Luis Obispo County and part of Monterey county until July, 1899. He had taken up a homestead claim and proved up on it when he became of age; and this he sold for three hundred fifty dollars. He then opened a butcher shop at Cambria, where he carried on a successful business until 1914.

In 1909, Mr. Mora, with two others, had purchased the J. C. McFerson ranch of three hundred seventy acres, as well as the Jack ranch at the head of Santa Rosa creek, consisting of nine hundred ten acres, both located in the vicinity of Cambria. Here they engaged in dairying and stock-raising. In 1914 they dissolved partnership, Mr. Mora becoming sole owner of the Jack ranch, which he still holds and where he is engaged in raising cattle, as also in buying and shipping stock, a business he has followed actively since 1898. He is considered the largest individual stock-buyer in his locality. He also owns a ranch of two hundred eighteen acres at Goldtree station in Chorro valley, four miles west of San Luis Obispo, where he resides with his family. This ranch is given over to dairying and raising beans and alfalfa, and is well improved with fine residence, barns and other buildings.

On January 16, 1900, Mr. Mora was united in marriage with Miss Josephine Cantua, a native of Cambria, the daughter of Joaquin and Tomassa





(Vasquez) Cantua, also of old Spanish families and pioneers of the state. Mr. and Mrs. Mora have had eight children: Ralph A.; Alfonso R.; Frances, now deceased; another daughter also named Frances, deceased; and Rudolph, Lawrence, Lewis and Ramona.

Mr. Mora is a member of Cambria Parlor No. 152, N. S. G. W., belongs to the Foresters of America, and is Past Chief Ranger and now (1917) treasurer of Court Pride of the Forest No. 231 at Cambria. Mrs. Mora is a charter member of El Pinal Parlor No. 162, N. D. G. W., at Cambria. Mr. Mora is a Republican and is a liberal supporter of all public movements that will build up the county and advance the interests of the residents. He is a self-made man, well and favorably known in his community, where he and his wife have a wide circle of acquaintances and friends.

**E. E. LONG.**—The organizer of the E. E. Long Piano Company, wholesale and retail dealers in pianos, piano players and talking machines in San Luis Obispo, and the dominating factor in one of the largest establishments of its kind, E. E. Long has made his influence felt in many ways, especially throughout the central coast counties. A native of Ohio, he was born in Cincinnati, in 1864, and was educated in the public schools of that city and in Belmont College. He later took up the study of law and in 1890 was admitted to the bar; but he never availed himself of the opportunity to practice the profession. He then took up the study of medicine, but not finding it to his liking, decided to go into the mercantile business. For seven years Mr. Long had charge of the wholesale department of the McPhail Piano Company's business in Boston, Mass., and later was identified with the Winter Manufacturing Co. of New York, makers of pianos and piano players, where he had charge of their wholesale department.

Mr. Long was making two trips to California each year in the interests of the factory, and knowing the territory and climate, decided to open a business of his own. Finding in San Luis Obispo a fine outlook, he started in on a small scale, branching out each year until the territory of the lower half of the state is covered by his traveling salesmen, and a large volume of business is carried on. His stock is valued at \$50,000, and includes the standard makes of instruments. The local store is in charge of his son, R. R. Long, who is also a partner in the business. J. H. Slocum is another member of the firm. In San Luis Obispo County Mr. Long has identified himself with the best interests of both city and county, and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Merchants' Association. Fraternally, he is a Mason.

The marriage of E. E. Long with Miss Dora Carrington, also a native of Ohio, united him to a lady of much talent. Mrs. Long is a graduate of Syracuse University and of the Cincinnati College of Music, in both vocal and instrumental courses. She studied with Madam Lund of Sweden, as well as with the best teachers of New York and Boston, and is recognized as a musician of more than ordinary talent. Mr. and Mrs. Long are the parents of one son, R. R. Long.

In the places where they have lived, both Mr. and Mrs. Long have been leaders in social affairs. Their beautiful suburban home and grounds, of eight acres, are located in the Arroyo Grande valley. There Mr. Long has erected a magnificent country residence, modern in every detail and one of the show places of the county.

**HENRY TANNER.**—That spirit of unselfishness which leads men and women to volunteer to go into remote corners of the earth and to face untold dangers and disease to succor their fellow men, without giving thought to self, is sure to bring its reward; and this spirit is exemplified in the life of this successful citizen of Arroyo Grande. Henry Tanner is a native of Germany, born on the Rhine. He was reared and educated in his native land, and there learned the baker's trade. At the age of eighteen, he left home and friends and came to the United States. In 1888 he opened the first bakery in Arroyo Grande, where for the following ten years he carried on an increasing business.

In 1898, when the war between America and Spain was imminent, he enlisted as a member of the California Red Cross Society, and saw service in Manila for one year as a volunteer nurse in the Red Cross Hospital. To prepare himself for this vocation, Mr. Tanner studied and took training in San Francisco at different hospitals, observing operations and learning the details of first aid to the wounded, and also attended lectures at Cooper Medical Hospital. As he looks back upon those months, spent in Manila, Mr. Tanner counts them as the most interesting of his career.

Returning to his usual duties after the Spanish-American War, he continued to build up a name for himself in Arroyo Grande, and is now owner of the Tanner Opera House and Tanner Hall. For the last six years, he has conducted a moving picture show in the town, and has otherwise contributed to the well-being of the community. He has been in the van of all forward movements, and supports all public enterprises for the development of the county. He has thus made a success, and has prepared well for the future.

**HERBERT E. BROOKS.**—The proprietor of the oldest commercial almond orchard in the section about Paso Robles and one of the well-posted men on the care and planting of almonds is Herbert E. Brooks. He is well and favorably known, and is a man who lives by the Golden Rule and whose word is as good as his bond. He was born at Delta, near Rome, Oneida county, N. Y., in 1861, and was reared there and went to the public school until fourteen. His father was Joseph Brooks, who enlisted at the first tap of the drum for service in the Civil War, served three months and re-enlisted for three years, but was killed in battle soon after. Joseph Brooks also had two brothers in the service. He married Sarah Kingsbury, who was born in Oneida county, and died in New York in 1915. Grandfather Brooks was in the War of 1812, and on the maternal side great-grandfather Newsom was in the English navy.

When he was sixteen, in 1877, Herbert E. Brooks went with an uncle, J. C. Ufford, to Rawlins county, Kan., and settled on the plains near where the city of Oberlin is located. There his uncle engaged in the cattle business, and he worked for him, riding the range and trailing cattle into Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming for years. In 1878, he was in an Indian raid, when seventeen men were killed on the neighboring claims, and he himself had a narrow escape from a running fight, when he nearly rode into the savages' midst. In 1881, Mr. Brooks' mother joined him in Kansas; and they homesteaded and entered land on the north fork of the Sappa, and he started in the cattle business for himself, acquiring four hundred eighty acres. Later

in 1882 the county seat was established at Atwood. Years afterwards,

Having heard such good reports of California in Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado and Wyoming, he decided to locate here; and in 1893 he came to San Luis Obispo County, where he had a brother-in-law, George Alexander, living in Paso Robles. Coming here, Mr. Brooks bought his present place of thirty acres, planted to almonds in 1890, settled on it and has made a study of the business; and on rented land he raises hay and grain. He has had some very fine crops from his trees, and they bring good prices. The orchard is in the best of condition and very thrifty. Mr. Brooks gives it his entire attention; and his brands, I X L, Ne Plus Ultra, and Nonpareil, are well known.

Mr. Brooks was united in marriage in Kansas with Miss Ermina Alexander, who was born in Missouri. They have had ten children, as follows: Ora, Mrs. Spooner of Morro; Gordon, in San Francisco; Floy, Mrs. Miller of Oak Flat; Julian, at Arbuckle, Cal.; George Alexander and Oscar J., at home; Paul, who died at the age of seven, and Janice, at the age of four; and Charles Russell and Bernice, who are at home.

Mr. Brooks is a member of the California Almond Growers' Exchange and a director in the local exchange. He is a member of the International Bible Students' Association and a leader of the class here. For the past twenty-five years he has been a close student of the doctrine of the association, and he organized the local congregation. Mr. Brooks is a man of splendid attainments, liberal and public-spirited, and successful.

**GILES N. TALBOT.**—Prominent among the horticulturists who, by their science and enterprise, have done much to extend the fame of San Luis Obispo County, and particularly of Paso Robles, Giles N. Talbot has set out the most extensive almond orchards in this vicinity. He was born in Beatrice, Gage county, Nebr. His father, George Talbot, was born near Detroit, Mich., and crossed the plains in 1852, in an old-fashioned overland ox-train. On the way their small company was attacked by Indians near Plum Creek, and one of his three comrades was killed. The others luckily escaped, and after much privation and delay made their way to California, where they engaged with more or less success in the mining ventures of the time. George Talbot, however, became something more than a mere prospector, and found a fair degree of profit in the fitting out of miners and the sale of mining supplies.

After twelve years in California, he returned to Michigan, and while there married Miss Mildred Lapham, a native of that state. The couple then removed to Nebraska, and took up a homestead near Beatrice, not far from the Big Blue river. But exposure and hardships endured during his mining experiences so undermined his health that, after years of pain, he died, in 1887. Those who knew him will never forget how interesting were his conversations in hours of semi-relief from suffering, when he was induced to talk of pioneer days in the mines of California. His wife also passed away in Nebraska, in 1890.

Two children remain of their family: the subject of our sketch and Mrs. E. W. Hunt, who resides near Syracuse, in Nebraska. Giles worked on a farm near Beatrice and attended the public school until, on his mother's death, he was compelled to paddle his own canoe. He then made his way to Holdredge, where he found employment in the lumber business, in which he continued for twelve years. He became interested in a lumber yard, as a

members of the firm of Cornell & Talbot. So well did this concern prosper that it started other yards in Atlanta, Oxford, Woodrow, Farnam and Maywood, thus having five yards besides the headquarters at Holdredge. The firm also acquired farming lands of value in that section.

In 1908, he sold out his interest in the lumber business and located in Los Angeles, where he became an investor in citrus fruit enterprises. He purchased, for example, land on Lemon Heights, northeast of Santa Ana, and set out twenty acres of lemons and Valencia oranges. Five years later he came to Paso Robles and cleared up some five hundred acres in the Encinal district, seven miles from Paso Robles, which he laid out to almonds, specializing in three different varieties: the I X L, the Nonpareil, and the Drake.

At Oxford, in Nebraska, Mr. Talbot was married to Miss Bernice Hamilton, a native of Somerset, Iowa, and the daughter of William T. Hamilton, who was born in Guernsey county, Ohio, a member of the same family as the great American statesman, Alexander Hamilton. The family is of Scotch-Irish descent. The maiden name of William T. Hamilton's mother was Lindsay. In early days Mr. Hamilton came to Iowa as a merchant, where he married Miss Emma J. McClintic, who was born in Lee county, Iowa, the daughter of A. D. McClintic, a native of Virginia, and Amanda (Hart) McClintic, who came from New York. This couple, also, was of Scotch-Irish descent. Mr. and Mrs. William T. Hamilton removed to Furnas county, Nebr.; and at Oxford, where Mr. Hamilton died in 1895, he became a very successful dry goods merchant. His widow is now a beloved member of the household of Mr. and Mrs. Talbot at Paso Robles.

Mr. and Mrs. Talbot have two children, Pauline and John. Mrs. Talbot is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Hollywood.

**JOHN R. FROOM.**—A successful rancher and well-known citizen of San Luis Obispo County, John R. Froom was born in Prescott, Granville county, Canada, February 29, 1864, a son of Erastus Froom, a native of the same section and a farmer, who came to California and settled in Sonoma county in 1882. There he was engaged in farming, but he finally returned to Canada, where he lived up to the time of his death. John R. Froom was educated in the public schools of his native place until he was sixteen years old, and lived at home with his mother in Canada until 1884, when he came to Iowa to seek his fortune.

He worked on a farm for six months and then journeyed to California, arriving in Sonoma county in the fall of 1884. Here he found employment on a ranch near Santa Rosa and worked there one year, after which he came to San Luis Obispo County, and in 1886 settled in the Laguna district, finding work on the ranch owned by Mr. L. Nelson, owner of the ranch now held by Mrs. Froom. This consisted of five hundred acres, which Mr. Froom leased in 1890, beginning dairying and meeting with good results. In 1904 the property was given to Mrs. Froom. Many of the improvements on the place are the result of Mr. Froom's labor, and here he conducts a dairy of fifty cows, a business which he has consistently followed since coming to

Mr. Froom was united in marriage with Harriett Perry, a native of Ireland, who came to Illinois with her brother and later to California and San Luis Obispo County, and settled on the ranch which is now her property. Mr. and Mrs. Froom were married on December 14, 1904, and seven children







Mr. McDonald

have blessed their union: Harry, Annie, Minnie, Willie, Robert, Bunny and John. All were born in this county, and all have been sent to the local school. Mr. and Mrs. Froom are well-known and highly respected. He takes an active interest in the upbuilding of the county, and with his wife supports all movements that have for their object the welfare of the community.

**MICHAEL McDONALD.**—A resident of California since 1868, and a man who, by energy and application, has accomplished much since first he located in the frontier country along the Estrella. "Murdoch" McDonald, as Michael McDonald is familiarly known by everyone, enjoys to an exceptional degree, as the oldest settler of that region, the esteem and good will of his fellows. Born in Sydney, Cape Breton county, N. S., March 15, 1844, Murdoch McDonald is descended from the McDonalds of Inverness-shire, Scotland, the famous and doughty Lords of the Isle, the mention of whose name and deeds makes the blood of the patriotic Scotchman tingle. The McDonalds are, in fact, a part of the royal line from Somhairle Mor MacGille Bride, a brave warrior who ruled the greater part of Argyleshire and the western part of Inverness-shire. There is a statement that Somhairle was descended from Conu Cued-Chatbach, a king of Ireland, who is said to have reigned about the year 125; but this has not been authenticated, and it may be an unfounded fable. What seems to be certain is that Somhairle was slain in battle at Renfrew in 1164, and that his eldest son, Dougall, was a progenitor of the McDougalls, of Lorne, whose fourth son, Ronald, had a son, Donald, who became a very distinguished person, so much so that from him the surname of McDonald was adopted. His grandson, Angus, fought with Bruce at the Battle of Bannockburn. It was one of his sons, Ronald, who was the ancestor of the clan Ronald McDonald, and he was succeeded by his eldest son, Allan; and his son, Donald, had two sons. From Alexander, the youngest, the McDonalds of Glengarry are descended; and as Murdoch McDonald is a lineal descendant of this clan, it is not surprising that he has named his ranch the Glengarry.

Murdoch's father was Donald McDonald, of Inverness, Scotland, who migrated to Sydney, N. S., where he became a prosperous farmer. His mother, on the other hand, was a native of Nova Scotia, whose maiden name was Theresa Gillis. Both father and mother died in that maritime province. A brother of Murdoch is Laughlin McDonald, now living at Hanford.

Brought up on a farm near the Atlantic seaboard, Murdoch McDonald was educated at one of the subscription schools of his day, and was thus limited to the most elementary courses; but by wide reading and close observation he has become well posted, and is a versatile and entertaining conversationalist. He has studied and read much Gaelic literature, too, and speaks with fluency the Gaelic language. In the fall of 1868 he came to California, sailing on the "Ocean Queen" from New York to Panama; and after crossing the Isthmus, proceeded north on the steamer "Colorado." On November 8, he came in through the Golden Gate, and wintered at Menlo Park, San Mateo county.

In the spring of 1869, Mr. McDonald repaired to the Estrella river, San Luis Obispo County, in which vicinity, for nearly half a century, he has been residing. He pre-empted one hundred sixty acres one mile west of his present homestead, which he also located as soon afterward as he could, and there he began the usual difficult but necessary improvements. Like the

thoroughly convinced that he was, he built a small adobe house, dug a well, and began breaking and plowing the ground and putting in crops. He was soon engaged, also, in sheep-raising, at which he was more than successful. Having some five thousand sheep on hand in 1877, the terribly dry year, he sent half of them to the coast and carried them through the hills there, while he drove the other half through the San Joaquin Valley and over the Sierras into Bishop valley, Inyo county. Having saved a good part of his flocks in this way, he continued the sheep business, in time possessing from five to six thousand head; although, when the railroad came through, and the country was being settled up rapidly, he found it more profitable to turn to grain and stock-raising. As he prospered, he purchased more land, and so acquired a large acreage, some of which he later sold. He has now six hundred forty acres on the Estrella river, fourteen miles east from Paso Robles—a splendid farm with considerable bottom land, which can easily be put under irrigation by pumping water from the neighboring river.

As soon as he was able to do so, Mr. McDonald replaced the old adobe house by a large, fine residence, near which he also erected suitable barns; and as the group of buildings is situated at the head of a cove, the beautiful location of Glengarry ranch headquarters could not fail to contribute much to the attractiveness of the estate. He also set out a promising orchard and built extensive fences. Mr. McDonald and his sons are now engaged in farming on a large scale, renting and operating land adjoining, in addition to that which they own. They devote large areas to wheat and barley, for which they require four big teams; and they use a combined harvester for gathering the crop. They are also engaged in raising Durham and Hereford cattle, and Percheron horses.

Mr. McDonald has actively participated in public and official life. For years he has been, as he still is, postmaster at Bern, where he has the office located in his residence. He was instrumental in establishing the Phillips school district, and in building the schoolhouse there; and he has been school trustee for the district several years.

In 1874, Mr. McDonald made a trip back to Nova Scotia, and while there he was married to Miss Elizabeth McLean, a native of Cape Breton County, who died more than twenty-five years ago. Six children were born from this union: Donald, who is deceased; Isabelle, James, Alice and Ronald, who are at home assisting in the operation of the farms; and Florence, now Mrs. Smith, who resides in Oroville. A Democrat who has frequently been a delegate to county conventions, Mr. McDonald has also done his duty as a citizen in serving on the grand jury.

**WILLIAM E. SMITH.** Prominently identified with the best interests of Arroyo Grande and one of the best-informed men on property values in this section of San Luis Obispo County, William E. Smith is actively engaged in a general real estate business at Arroyo Grande. He was born in Syracuse, N. Y., May 7, 1840, was educated in the public schools, and in 1862, soon after war was declared between the North and the South, enlisted in Company I, 24th New York Cavalry, and served with the Army of the Potomac, taking part in nineteen general engagements. On the surrender of General Lee, Mr. Smith took part in the Grand Review at Washington at the close of the war. During his term of service he was twice wounded, once severely in the leg, and was taken prisoner, but escaped.

After being mustered out, he returned to Pennsylvania and for seven years worked in the oil fields; later he engaged in the mercantile business at Manistique, Mich., on Lake Superior, and continued in business there until coming to the Pacific Coast.

Mr. Smith was a pioneer of Aberdeen, Wash., where he settled and engaged in contracting and building, erecting the first business block in that place. He carried on building there for many years and was a factor in the development of the place. Leaving Aberdeen in 1894, he came south to the Rogue river district in Oregon and for two years engaged in mining.

He then came on to California and stopped in Crescent City a year; and later went to the Mojave desert and prospected and mined for two years. He then was employed in the oil fields of Kern county, and afterwards went to the Santa Maria oil fields district. Then for a time he helped boom Pismo Beach, and still later was in Santa Margarita dealing in real estate. On January 1, 1916, he located in Arroyo Grande, and here he has succeeded in realty dealing. He is a member of Hancock Post, G. A. R., in Crescent City, Cal. Mr. Smith is the father of two children, Mrs. Lennie Peterson of Oakland, and Perless, a son, in Arroyo Grande. Mr. Smith is a self-made, public-spirited man, and one who makes and keeps friends.

**STEPHEN P. DILLE.**—It would be difficult to find a man more emphatically in accord with the true western spirit of progress, or more keenly alive to the opportunities awaiting the industrious and intelligent man of affairs in San Luis Obispo County, than Stephen P. Dille, of the vicinity of Paso Robles. He was born at Mount Victory, Hardin county, O., April 25, 1846, a son of Abraham and grandson of Isaac Dille, both born in Pennsylvania. Isaac Dille went to Ohio, where he died. Abraham Dille was a farmer, who settled in Hardin county, in 1833, in a forest, in which he cleared and improved a farm, burning the logs on the place. He died there at the age of eighty-two years. He married Deborah Post, a native of Pennsylvania, who also died in Ohio. Of their family of ten children, nine grew to maturity, Stephen P. being now the only survivor. They were: Cyrus, who served in the Civil War with the 121st Ohio regiment, and died in Ohio; Munson, who was in the Civil War with the 135th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and died in Ohio; Asher, and Wade, who both died before the war; Emily Ann, Mrs. Winder, who died in Monterey, Cal.; Isaac N., who served in the Civil War, first with the 4th Illinois Cavalry, and then as first lieutenant in a company with the 135th Ohio and the 192nd Ohio regiments, and who died at Lompoc, Cal., leaving three children; Francis Marion, and Phoebe, who both died before the war; and Stephen P., the subject of this review. Munson Dille was married and had nine children. One of these, Mary Effie, married W. M. Eddy and resides in Ohio. She has six children, one of whom, Lloyd Eddy, is a farmer near Paso Robles.

Mr. Dille was reared in Ohio and attended the public schools. On May 1, 1864, he volunteered for service in Company H, 135th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He was mustered in at Columbus, and was detailed to guard the B. & O. Railway with his company, in Virginia. He was mustered out in September, 1864. He again volunteered, but was rejected. His father volunteered, but was rejected by the recruiting officer on account of his age, he being sixty-three. After Mr. Dille was mustered out of the service, he took up the trade of carpenter and worked in Ohio until 1871, when he went to Filmore

Mr. Dille located a homestead of one hundred sixty acres, improved it and remained there ten years, farming and doing carpenter work. He sold out in 1881, and came to California, and at Lompoc worked at his trade. The following year he went to Monterey county, where he pre-empted one hundred sixty acres in Jolon Flats, and set to work improving the place. He also worked at his trade for nearly thirty years. In 1910, he located in San Luis Obispo County and bought eighty acres on the Huer-Huero, three and one-half miles from Paso Robles, and there he engaged in raising hay and stock, meeting with the success that has characterized his efforts through life.

Mr. Dille was married in Ventura county to Mrs. Mollie (Allen) Edson, a native of Ohio. She died in Ohio while on a trip for her health, with her husband. Mr. Dille was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic as long as a post was near, which he could attend. He served as school trustee for many years. In politics he is a Republican.

**JOHN FRANKLIN BOTTS.**—Decidedly in the front rank of those who have contributed to making California what it is today, are the sturdy Hoosiers who, bidding good-bye to more settled conditions and greater conveniences, cast in their lot on the shores of the Pacific at a period when and in places where to do so meant to invite years of hardship if not permanent disappointment. Such a worthy native of Indiana, of whom his fellow Californians are justly proud, is John Franklin Botts, the well-known rancher of Paso Robles, who was born near Bateham, Sullivan county, Indiana, on August 22, 1857. His grandfather, George W. Botts, moved to Indiana from Ohio, after first migrating from his native state of Pennsylvania, and died in Illinois. His father, George W. Botts, was born near Coshocton, Ohio, and settled as a farmer in Sullivan county, Ind. Afterward, he removed with his family to Carroll county, Mo., where he bought a farm and operated it until 1865, in which year he returned to Indiana, this time to Greene county. Perhaps he was glad to get out of Missouri, for he had a hard experience there during the Civil War, when guerrilla bands came and went, and his life was at times in jeopardy. The mother of John F. Botts was Catherine Exline, a sister of Levi Exline, the pioneer of Paso Robles (whose life the reader will also find sketched in this work); and she also was born in the county of Coshocton. She and her husband died near Sullivan, Ind. Of their marriage eight children were born, six of whom, as follows, reached maturity: John Franklin and his twin brother, B. N. Botts, of Paso Robles; Flora J., Mrs. T. F. Abbey, who died at Paso Robles; Catherine J., who became the wife of Michael Gerst, of Paso Robles, who also receives special mention in this volume; Rosetta B., Mrs. Pierce, who died at Paso Robles; and Silva, Mrs. Fortney, who passed away in the same town.

John Botts lived in Missouri up to his seventh or eighth year, and then went to Greene county, Ind., with his parents, and grew up on a farm, attending the public schools for several months in the year; but owing to his father's ill health, he had to shorten his schooling and undertake more hard labor than is the lot of most lads. At the age of eighteen, he took the greater part of sixty-nine dollars he had saved and bought a ticket for San Francisco. The half-turbulent city still so largely in the making interested him, but the fact that he had relatives at Paso Robles induced him to continue his journey to the latter place, where he arrived with just a dollar and a half in his pocket. He parted with almost his last cent to buy an axe, and began chopping wood

and clearing land; and with that occupation he has since then always had more or less to do.

In 1877, in partnership with Levi Exline, he located a claim in Oak Flat; but with brotherly generosity he afterwards gave over the title to his sister. The next year, he homesteaded one hundred sixty acres farther up the Flat, and improved the place, clearing one hundred acres. At first he set out an orchard of twenty acres in peaches, for he was always greatly interested in horticultural development, and spared no study to learn the best methods and the most economical means; and he succeeded in getting ten acres into bearing. Strange to say, however, there was then no sale for the fruit; and not finding his investment profitable, he in time sold the place. He also cleared for others about one hundred acres. A summer was passed in Fresno; and then he returned to Paso Robles and began all over again, engaging in contracting. His next move was to Arroyo Grande, and there he owned two different places, clearing some twenty acres and raising vegetables.

Once more returning to Paso Robles, he bought a hundred seventy-three acres in the Summit district, which he now devotes to grain and stock-raising, and to horticulture. He set aside twenty-five acres for an orchard, which is well named the "Applewood Home," because there is an old apple orchard on the place which bears fruit of a splendid quality, large, well-formed and of a fine flavor. The soil and altitude, together with the climate, make it fine for growing apples, in which he is specializing. In 1911, Mr. Botts took charge of the Coffin place at Paso Robles, and there he planted an orchard of sixty-five acres to almonds and twelve acres to Bartlett pears. His experience and knowledge of horticulture have enabled him to accomplish favorable results. The orchard is now five years old; and it is the consensus of opinion of people who have traveled through the almond districts that it is the finest almond orchard in this section. It is shown by real estate men as a prize orchard when they wish to demonstrate the advantages of this locality for the growing of almonds. He superintends this place, and at the same time his family operate the home place at Summit.

During his residence in Paso Robles, on February 16, 1887, Mr. Botts married Miss Mary E. Abbey, born at Stockton-on-Tees, England, the daughter of Thomas F. Abbey, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Botts received her education in Indiana and in Kansas City, coming to Paso Robles in 1886. Nine children have been born of this union: Flora, Mrs. J. J. Thompson of Arroyo Grande; Ethel, at home; John H., in charge of the home ranch at Summit; George M., who died at the age of eight years; and William, Milton, Frank, Eugene and Victor, at home. Mr. Botts gives no small degree of credit for his success in horticulture to his faithful wife, who has always been ready to help him with advice and encouragement. For the past twenty years Mr. Botts has been a Socialist. He has served his community as a trustee of the Oak Flat school district.

**ROBERT M. PLYMPTON.**—A resident of San Luis Obispo County since 1904, coming here for the benefit of his wife's health. Robert M. Plympton is now an extensive truck gardener of Arroyo Grande and vicinity. He was born near Nebraska City, Otoe county, Neb., October 12, 1871, attended the public schools until he was eighteen years old, and lived at home on the farm until he was twenty-one. Then, starting out for himself, he went to western Nebraska, farming for two years in Redwillow county.

The last year being a dry one, he lost everything and returned home and began working for wages as a farm hand, receiving twelve dollars a month and board, until 1898. During this time he had saved enough to make another start and rented a place near the old home farm, which he carried on for three years with success. With his savings he went to Knox county, Missouri, and bought one hundred eighty acres of land. He remained there but six months, when he came to California.

Mr. Plympton located in Santa Barbara county for a short time, then came to Arroyo Grande and bought one and three quarters acres of land, and for two years raised garden truck. Selling out in 1906, he entered into partnership with J. E. Parrish in raising garden truck on twenty-eight acres near Arroyo Grande. Six months later, however, the partnership was dissolved and Mr. Plympton bought a small place and continued business alone, running a vegetable wagon to San Luis Obispo during the summer of 1908. Meeting with success in this venture, he sold out and bought his present place of fifteen acres, one mile east of town, where he has five acres in garden truck, an orchard of five acres and the balance in alfalfa and berries, carrying on a wholesale business—the largest acreage devoted to this kind of business in the valley.

Mr. Plympton is a member and past master of the Arroyo Lodge, No. 274, F. & A. M., and was a delegate to the Grand Lodge in San Francisco in 1915. He is president of the Farmers' Educational Co-operative Union, and was a delegate to the State Union in 1914. He is a prominent member of the Methodist Church, being a trustee and steward.

On March 19, 1899, Mr. Plympton was united in marriage with Mary Brown, who was born in Knox county, Mo., and they are the parents of two children: Harold and Eunice. Mr. Plympton is a man of public spirit and strong character, honest and industrious, and one who has made a success of his life work.

**REV. F. M. LACK.**—The history of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church of Arroyo Grande dates back to 1881, when church services were held in an old adobe house, but it was not until 1886 that the present church was built by Rev. Father Michael Lynch, a native of Ireland, who also erected the church at Nipomo. He died in 1903. Rev. Father F. M. Lack, the priest now in charge, was born in France in 1861, educated in France and in England, ordained to the priesthood in London and, in 1889, came to the United States.

Arriving in this country, he came to California and for about a year was assistant to Rev. Father MacNamee in the parish in Santa Cruz. The following year he came to San Luis Obispo as assistant at the Mission and remained there three years, during which time he ministered to the churches at Cambria and Cayucos, and all of the coast section and at Poso. His next charge was at Santa Ynez Mission. While stationed there he held church in Lompoc, Sisquoc chapel, Gaviota (Las Cruces), Los Alamos and Guadalupe for about fourteen years. At that time the Indian reservation numbered over one hundred souls at Santa Ynez. In parts of the county where there were no church edifices, he held services in empty store rooms, hotels and such places as he could find where there were accommodations.

In 1903, he came to St. Patrick's Church in Arroyo Grande, also serving St. Joseph's Church in Nipomo and Guadalupe. The parishes of St. Patrick's

and St. Joseph's number about 2,000 adult members. It is greatly to the credit of Father Lack that at present their condition is so prosperous. His mission territory is limited to the boundary lines of Santa Maria on the south, Edna and Oil Port on the north, the Kern county boundary on the east, and the ocean on the west, including Pismo, Oceano, Hadley and Oso Flaco. He has been most zealous in his work and is beloved by his congregations. He is now in point of service the oldest priest in the county. The experience gained while at the Mission and in Santa Cruz enables him to meet almost any emergency that may arise in his line of duty. Father Lack is public-spirited and willingly co-operates with all movements for the uplift of the people and the betterment of the county.

**JOHN C. FREEMAN.**—The entire life of Mr. Freeman has been passed within the borders of California. He was born in Rocklin, Placer county, October 11, 1888, the son of a pioneer of the state, who was a business man of Rocklin for many years. The education of J. C. Freeman was received in Oakland, where his father had moved to establish himself in business. He graduated from St. Mary's College in 1905, and then entered the mercantile business, engaging in different vocations until 1907, when he returned to Rocklin to take charge of his father's undertaking business, established many years before. The four years from 1907 to 1910 were spent in Rocklin. In the latter year a fire which practically wiped out the town, destroyed the establishment conducted by Mr. Freeman, and he then decided to branch out for himself in a wider field.

Coming to San Luis Obispo, in 1910, he purchased an undertaking business which had been established many years before. His early training had given him the advantage of modern and scientific methods; and through these, together with his painstaking care and courteous treatment, Mr. Freeman soon made his influence felt in San Luis Obispo and environs; so that today the establishment, of which he is owner and proprietor, known as P. J. Freeman & Co., Funeral Directors, and long located at 982 Monterey street, is well and favorably known throughout a wide area.

On June 4, 1913, Mr. Freeman was united in marriage with Miss Violet Mitchell, who was born in Oakland, and of this union two daughters, Catherine and Jean, have been born.

Since coming to San Luis Obispo, Mr. Freeman has taken a very active part in the civic and social life of the city.

**ORRIN E. MILLER.**—Through his connection with the interests of Arroyo Grande as the leading blacksmith of this section, Mr. Miller has become one of the well-known men of the county. He was born in Johnson county, Iowa, July 6, 1870, the son of Isaac D. and Cadace (Andrews) Miller, natives of Iowa and Pennsylvania respectively. The father served in the Civil War, enlisting in Company D, Twenty-fourth Iowa Regiment, Volunteer Infantry, and during an engagement was shot in the leg and made a cripple for life. In 1872 he came to California, and the following year settled in Morro and engaged in farming until 1877, when he moved to Arroyo Grande and bought a tract of six and a quarter acres north of the town, where he is engaged in raising fruit and general produce. He is a member of the Grand Army Post and the I. O. O. F.

Orrin E. Miller attended school at Morro and Cholame valley, began the trade of blacksmith with Joseph Eubanks of Arroyo Grande in 1888,



worked for him three years and then went to Hollister, where he worked two years at the same trade; and from there he went to Iowa, and followed his trade three years. He returned to California at the end of this period and, in partnership with his brother Walter, erected a shop near the creek, in Arroyo Grande, where he has since been located and carries on a thriving business. Mr. Miller also owns six and one-half acres north of the town which is set to fruit and nuts, and equipped with an electric pumping plant for irrigating.

The marriage of Orrin E. Miller united him with Sarah Startzer, a native of Iowa. They have four children: Hazel, teaching school in Arizona, Ida, Arline, and Harold. Mr. Miller is a member of the Odd Fellows and has passed through all the chairs, and is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America. He is well liked in his community, where he is recognized for his integrity and industry.

**NIELS JOHNSON.**—Niels Johnson is a representative citizen of Templeton, and the pioneer of the wood business that has meant so much to every farmer in this section of the county; for when crops were poor or there were no crops at all, the timber could always be depended upon to yield a living and pay taxes, and it was through Mr. Johnson that a market was found and ready money was forthcoming. He was born in Naskoo, Denmark, March 21, 1850, a son of Johan and Maren Rasmussen. His father, a farmer and blacksmith, was twice married, and Niels Johnson of this review is the youngest of four children born of the first marriage.

Niels Johnson was reared in his native land until he was nineteen, when he set out for himself and came to America, locating in Oshkosh, Wis., where he was employed in the lumber mills on Wolf river for one year. Then he went to Green Bay, and in 1871 came to California. He went to the lumber section in Mendocino county and worked one winter, and then came back to San Jose and followed farm pursuits. In 1876 he was united in marriage at San Jose to Miss Mary Jane Dunbar, a native of New York State. She came to California with her sister, Mrs. Maria Carr, and lived in Alameda county.

After their marriage Mr. Johnson went to Salinas, where he followed ranching, purchased and improved a place near there, and then sold out and moved to Castroville. He was one of the first men to ship wood from that town to San Jose, where he found a market; he also bought land and farmed for a time, but sold and moved to Watsonville. In the early days in that section the fruit business was a fiasco, for there was no sale for the fruit. The best of land was selling for \$250 per acre, which was thought the limit; but it has quadrupled since. In 1889, Mr. Johnson sold out and moved to Templeton and bought one thousand acres adjoining the town on the south. He cleared some of the land, plowed it and put in grain, and carried on general farming and stock-raising, with fine results.

A great deal of timber was on Mr. Johnson's land, and he cut a certain amount for wood each year and figured on a certain income from that source. He has also engaged in buying wood on a large scale and has found a ready market in San Jose and San Francisco, handling about one thousand cords annually. At first the market for wood was poor, but by dint of perseverance he has built up and maintained a regular demand, and this yields a steady income to those who are clearing their land and cutting wood. For



Niels Johnson



ten years Mr. Johnson has supplied the Western Meat Co., in San Francisco and Oakland, with white oak wood for smoking their meats. He considers that the wood business at Templeton has been the backbone of the community's prosperity.

Besides his home place Mr. Johnson farmed twelve hundred acres on the Santa Margarita ranch about six years, and at another time had twenty-five hundred acres leased on the Carissa plains, from 1898 to 1900, using a combined harvester for gathering his crop, and a caterpillar engine for hauling and for plowing, besides using other modern machinery in the conduct of his ranch work. In 1913 he sold his ranch and at once made another purchase of nine hundred acres near Templeton; then he sold six hundred of this and still retains three hundred acres. He also bought his present block in Templeton, where he has his residence and also a livery and feed stable.

To Mr. and Mrs. Johnson nine children were born. Ernest runs the livery stable; Lulu, Mrs. Fritz Clausen, lives in Templeton; Maria, Mrs. Edward Anderson, lives near Templeton; Emma, Mrs. Wessel, is at Santa Barbara; Edward stays on the home ranch; Harry is ranching east of the town; and Grace is at home with her father. Mrs. Johnson passed away in April, 1913, and seven weeks later a son, Clayton, died at the age of twenty. Maud died at the age of twelve years. Mr. Johnson has served as a school trustee for many years. He is a member of the San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 322, B. P. O. E. In his political affiliations a Republican, he was the nominee of his party for supervisor of District No. 5 two different times; but while he carried his own town, the greater population was in the other end of the district and so defeated him.

Mr. Johnson is an enterprising man. He was one of the organizers of the Templeton Flour Mills Co., and a director from the starting of the building, for which the lumber was hauled from Pismo. The mill was erected as a full roller-process mill. It was expected that this enterprise would build up the community; but after operating for a few years, the company ran behind and became seriously involved, and Mr. Johnson with two others, Thos. Petersen and Owen O'Neil, liquidated it. In all of his business dealings Mr. Johnson has endeavored to follow the Golden Rule, and the result is that his integrity and honesty of purpose are unquestioned.

**ABRAHAM CHRISTENSEN.** A man of excellent character, well and favorably known by a wide circle of friends throughout the section of San Luis Obispo County where he makes his home, Abraham Christensen was born at Bjellandsogn, near Christiansand, Norway, on November 29, 1850. His parents, Christen and Anna (Olsen) Christensen, were both born there, and the father was a well-to-do farmer and the owner of a large pine forest that was of great value. They had five children, two of whom are now living. Ingeborg, Mrs. Anderson, died in Paso Robles; Ole died in Templeton; Kiddel lives in Minnesota; Nils died in that state, being killed by a falling tree at St. Peter.

Abraham Christensen, the youngest of the family, was educated in the public schools at his home town, and learned farming as it was carried on there. At the age of twenty-one he went to sea, sailing from England to St. Petersburg on the "Triton"; and from that time his life was one of much travel, leading to almost every important port in the world. Returning to Christiansand, the "Triton" loaded rye for Bordeaux; then she cleared with a

cargo of lumber, and again with wine for Germany. "The ship was once frozen in for four weeks, when all got sick from using river water, but recovered after getting back home. He made two trips to Scotland on a coasting schooner, and was with the barque "Callisto" for two years. At Buenos Ayres he left the "Callisto," and worked in that city until the breaking out of a revolution, when he left on a Norwegian ship for Antwerp. He then shipped back home and was in the coasting trade until 1878, when he went to London, joined the "Jeanette" and went to Havre. This was the ship that James Gordon Bennett bought for his Arctic explorations. On her Mr. Christensen came through the Straits of Magellan to San Francisco, and on to Mare Island, where, in December, 1878, he resigned.

All the coasters were laid up, and Mr. Christensen went to work in the Livermore valley till trade started once more, when he sailed on the "Ivanhoe" with lumber for San Pedro, and then back to San Francisco. Nearly all coasters were laid up on account of the slack times, but he soon joined the schooner "Alfred," making two trips to Mendocino City after lumber. He next made a trip to Seattle on the barkentine "Modoc" and back, with coal. The times were hard; and he then went to work on the Sutter street cable cars as a conductor. In the spring he was made mate of a coasting vessel and later was on the Merchants tugboat "Holyoke." While he was in San Francisco, he attended night school, perfecting his English and preparing himself to take an examination, which he passed successfully, and was licensed as a master and pilot of tugboats. He was in the Merchants and Shipowners service until 1886, when times became very slack and among others his boat was laid up.

Having been raised on the farm, he had always had a longing to get back to the country; so in the spring of 1886, with a comrade, Christian Tellefsen, he came to Monterey and San Luis Obispo County on a recreation trip. They were so pleased with the soil and climate of the country and became so interested that they determined to locate land. Securing the services of Mr. Minnett, a surveyor of San Miguel, they located on pre-emption claims of one hundred sixty acres each in Vineyard cañon, about fourteen miles from San Miguel. About a year later, having proved up, he located a homestead of one hundred sixty acres in the same vicinity. After placing his first claim, Mr. Christensen returned to San Francisco and bought horses and machinery, and then came back to the ranch, erected a house, dug wells, cleared the land, and began farming and stockraising. He proved up on the land and cultivated it many years, having a three hundred twenty acre ranch, and then sold and located on the Nacimiento. Here he farmed three years, and then went to Paso Robles in 1902, where he engaged in farming and stockraising, and the dairy business, and has made a success. He was faithful to his duties on sea and worked his way to a master and pilot's license; and on land he has been equally faithful to his duties, for he has made a success of his labors and is highly respected by all who know him. He has served as trustee of Orange school district in Monterey county, is a member of the Lutheran Church, and a Socialist.

Mr. Christensen was married in San Francisco on January 5, 1889, by Rev. O. Gronsberg, to Miss Grethe A. Andersen, born at Egeland, near Lillsand. Her mother died in December, 1874, and her father was married a second time, to Ingeborg Christensen, and in September of 1888 they came with the daughter, Grethe, to San Miguel. Mrs. Christensen has been a

faithful helpmate to her husband, always assisting and encouraging him during their early struggles and hardships caused by the dry years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Christensen the following children have been born: Anna Andrea, Mrs. Ritter of Paso Robles, the mother of one daughter, Eugenia E.; Emma Frederika, wife of Mr. Joe Freeman, a farmer of Paso Robles, who has one son; Christopher Albert, proprietor of Spring City Dairy of Paso Robles; Laura Nicoline, Mrs. Rasmussen, of Paso Robles; Grethe Amalia, at home, a graduate of the high school; and Oscar Frederick Johan, at home.

**JOHN STUMPF.**—A prominent and wide-awake business man, and the owner of the Star Garage building in Templeton, John Stumpf has been actively engaged in business and farming in this section for many years. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, September 13, 1855, a son of J. A. Stumpf, who was a well-to-do farmer and owner of three hundred fifty-six acres of land in Bavaria. Two uncles of our subject were pioneers in 1849 of the section now the site of Detroit, Mich., owning land there and becoming very wealthy.

John Stumpf was educated in the public schools and also by private tutor in his native province. The family has produced some prominent Bavarian educators. In 1877 he came to America, and in Philadelphia was employed at railroad work until 1882, when he finally reached San Francisco and there was variously occupied until he went to the mines in Tuolumne county, where he followed mining for a time. Then he came back to San Francisco and found work on some vessels plying about the bay, and later for seven years became proprietor of a boarding house.

In 1894 he came to Templeton, where he has since been located. He was interested in a dairy ranch of thirty-two acres in town and installed a pumping plant, improved the place, sowing alfalfa, and continued dairying until, selling out lately, he built the structure occupied by the Star Garage. Besides this property, Mr. Stumpf owns other business and residence property in the town, and is also a stockholder in the First National Bank of Paso Robles, and in the Paso Robles Mercantile Co. He is still interested in mines in Tuolumne county. Always helpful, too, in building up industries, he was one of the stockholders of the Templeton Milling Co. and was on its board of directors for three years. He is a member of the Eagles, and in politics is a Republican. He is well satisfied with his choice of a home, as he has made a success of his labors, and has won a host of friends and admirers through his strict integrity and honesty of purpose.

**FRANK WITCOSKY.**—A native son of California, and one who always has the interests of the community uppermost in his mind when it comes to promoting every movement for developing its resources and bettering the condition of its citizens, is Frank Witcosky, now twenty-nine years old, the youngest cattle buyer in the state. He was born in San Francisco, July 24, 1888, a son of Adolph Witcosky, a native of Germany who came to California in the early eighties, and followed his trade as a blacksmith in San Francisco, where he now lives and is similarly engaged.

Although born in San Francisco, Frank Witcosky was brought to San Luis Obispo when three years old and received his education here in the public schools. For eight years he drove a butcher wagon for Gingg Bros. Since he was ten years old, however, he has been familiar with cattle in one

way or another, and it was but natural that he should turn to buying and selling stock when he started for himself. Since 1913, therefore, Mr. Witcosky has been buying cattle on commission, handling large contracts and making considerable money. At the age of eighteen he turned some big deals that represented considerable capital.

He ships from 200 to 300 head at one time, and in 1915 shipped in all about 1,000 cattle. In the spring of 1916, he consigned ten car loads of calves and yearlings to King City, and that same spring from ten to twelve to the Imperial Valley and Arizona. He also acts as buyer for the butchers of San Luis Obispo. Besides stock cattle, Mr. Witcosky has purchased horses for the government for use in war maneuvers, and handles large numbers of dairy cattle which are shipped to Arizona. There is no better judge of beef cattle in the state than Frank Witcosky of San Luis Obispo, and he has a wide acquaintance throughout the West, where he is well and favorably known as an expert on stock and a conservative buyer.

Mr. Witcosky's marriage united him with Miss Wyss, who was born in San Luis Obispo County, and they have four children: Evelyn, Frank, Alma, and Gertrude. He is a member of the U. P. E. C. Lodge of San Luis, and is a popular and public-spirited citizen.

**GEORGE LAING.**—A prosperous fruit raiser and citizen of the northern part of San Luis Obispo County, George Laing is located about four miles northwest of Paso Robles on a fine sixty-six acre ranch. He is a native of New Brunswick, born in Campbelltown, October 15, 1875, a son of Robert, who was a farmer and grandson of Alex, a native of Scotland who settled in Campbelltown at an early day and farmed. In 1883, Robert Laing located in South Dakota, where he bought a farm and operated it until 1891, when he homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indian reservation, where he and his wife (who was, in maidenhood, Catherine Atkinson) still live. Mrs. Laing is a descendant of English parents, who settled in New Brunswick.

The third of a family of eleven children, nine of whom are living, George Laing was reared, from the age of eight years, in South Dakota, attended the public schools and when sixteen started out to work for wages on the farms near his home when not engaged on the home farm. At the age of twenty-one he took up a homestead of one hundred sixty acres on the Indian reservation, erected a house, broke the land and raised wheat, and also rented adjoining land for that purpose. He was successful; and selling out in 1907, he came to California and bought a prune orchard of thirteen acres near Los Gatos, Santa Clara County, a property he traded, in 1909, for the sixty-six acres he now owns.

Here Mr. Laing improved the land, cleared it and set out olives and almonds, ten acres, and Bartlett pears, eight acres, while he reserves two acres for loganberries and has the balance in grain and hay. On this land he has succeeded beyond his expectations and finds a ready market for his crops. He is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, and is a Republican.

In South Dakota occurred the marriage of George Laing with Miss Ella Coburn, a native of Minnesota, whose father George was a native of Ontario, and whose grandfather Coburn came from Scotland and married Eliza Bowl, an English lady. He was a merchant tailor in Ontario. George Coburn even-







*Mrs Jane Kiler*

his wife are now living. Mrs. Laing was a teacher before her marriage and now substitutes occasionally in the schools. They have six children: Elma, Ethel, Bertie, Dayton, Clayton and Edson. Mr. Laing has served as school trustee and clerk of the board here as well as when in Dakota. Mrs. Laing is a member of the Episcopal Church.

**MRS. JANE KILER.**—Perhaps there is no resident of this county more familiar with pioneer conditions than Mrs. Jane Kiler of Paso Robles. She is the daughter of Lott H. Smith, who was a native of Pennsylvania, where he farmed, and who later located in the Bronx, now a part of New York City. In 1864 he brought his wife and two children to California via Panama, and settling in San Rafael, followed painting and contracting for many years, after which he retired and died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Kiler, in Paso Robles. One of his brothers, Sidney Smith, was a noted singer in New York City, where their father, John Smith, was a taxidermist and an expert in dyes. The wife of Lott Smith was Alice Hall, a native of New York, whose father, John Hall, came from England and settled in the Bronx district. He was an artist and painter in oil, and by trade was a stone mason. He died in New York. One of his sons, Robert Hall, was a capitalist in New York City. Mrs. Lott Smith died in San Rafael.

Of the union of Lott H. Smith and Alice Hall six children were born, among whom Jane was the third in order of birth. She was born in the Bronx, New York City, and was educated in San Rafael, attending school and church in the old Mission, where court was also held for a time. The site of the Mission is now occupied by the First National Bank of San Rafael. In 1876, Jane Smith was united in marriage with Samuel H. Kiler, a native of St. Joseph, Mich. He was a carpenter and builder, and was also engaged in the insurance business, as well as in the sale of agricultural implements, until 1887, when they came to San Luis Obispo County and located in Paso Robles, building a comfortable home and settling down in the new town. Soon afterwards he homesteaded a tract of one hundred sixty acres five miles west of the town, in the Encinal district, adding later by purchase another ranch of like amount; so that they had three hundred twenty acres, upon which they made improvements in buildings and fencing, and in the setting out of orchards of various kinds of fruit, specializing in apples. At the apple show in Watsonville in 1912, their exhibit of Northwestern Greenings took the medal against exhibits from twenty-eight counties. At the Paso Robles fair, the same year, their exhibit was in the shape of a pen-nant, reading "Paso Robles," the letters being formed with differently colored apples. Here they took the prize on Black Ben, Arkansas Black, and Northwestern Greenings. In 1916, Mrs. Kiler took the blue ribbon at the Upper Salinas Valley fair on her Northwestern Greenings.

The Kilers resided on their ranch until 1905, when they moved to their home in Paso Robles, superintending the ranch work from their city home. Here Mr. Kiler passed away, March 26, 1914. He was prominent in horticultural affairs, was an honorary member of the Luther Burbank Society and a member and official of the State Realty Federation, and was engaged for some years in the real estate and insurance business in Paso Robles. He was long trustee and clerk of the school board, was a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood and the Congregational Church, and was a Republican. It was through his efforts that the fence was built around the city park as

it stands today. He was always in the van in whatever tended to the building of the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Kiler had eight children. Harry served in Company D, 27th U. S. Volunteer Infantry, in the Spanish-American War, and died in the Philippines. Alice, Mrs. O. H. Brians, resides at Dinuba. Maud is the wife of Fred Royse, of Washington, D. C., where he is employed in the pension bureau. Mamie is the wife of Adolph Claassen, in business in American Falls, Ida. William Justice resides in the same place. Benjamin F. is a real estate dealer in Paso Robles, where he carries on the business established by his father. He is specializing in almond-raising in the Encinal district west of Paso Robles at an elevation of 1,900 feet in the frostless belt, where he has about eight hundred acres set out. He is taking a course in agriculture at the University of California College of Agriculture, to perfect himself in the industry. He is also agent for the Pacific Nursery Co. of Oregon. Nettie Viola is bookkeeper in the Southern Pacific Hospital at San Francisco. Minnie Margaret is the wife of M. N. Yocum of Bellota, Cal.

Mrs. Kiler has been a member of the Episcopal Church for forty-two years, and in politics supports the Republican party. She is a woman of much native ability, cultured and refined, and socially much sought after. She is a member of various clubs and fraternal societies in Paso Robles, in all of which she is a prominent and active worker. She was president of the Woman's Club, in which she has always been very active, particularly in civic matters. She took the first steps towards securing aid for the State Horticultural Commission in the exterminating of the pine weevil, and was the prime mover in planting the state flower, the California poppy, along the state highway in Paso Robles and its environs. Being public-spirited, she gives of her time and means as far as she is able towards the upbuilding and beautifying of her adopted city.

**JOHN HARRIS OOLEY.**—One of the best-posted horticulturists in San Luis Obispo County and at this writing the superintendent of the McPhail almond ranch and the Dr. Akin almond orchard, John H. Ooley has won a name and place for himself in this county and also in the state. He is a native of Indiana, born in Clay county, August 16, 1871, a son of Robert and Eliza Jane (Letsinger) Ooley, natives of Indiana of Scotch-Irish and German descent respectively. Robert Ooley was a soldier during the Civil War. After the war, he engaged in farming, and died in Indiana. He had two brothers who served through the war; and his wife had six brothers in the service, two being killed in action and one afterwards dying from wounds.

The third of five children born to his parents, John H. Ooley had the advantages of the public schools of his home and the high school at Worthington, living at home and growing to manhood on the farm. In 1891, he came to Paso Robles, California. He worked for Levi Exline one year on his ranch, and then for the Blackburns as landscape gardener nearly four years in Paso Robles, after which he was with the University of California Experiment Station at Paso Robles for six years, the last two years having charge of the station. During this time Mr. Ooley experimented in the growing and care of all kinds of nuts and fruits, and became recognized as

When the station was discontinued, he went to Chico as state forester one year and was in charge of the station; but on account of malaria he re-

signed and returned to Paso Robles, and for two years was clerk in Mr. Bell's store. From there he went to Salinas and was in the employ of the Sperry Flour Co. five years, where he became bolterman; and when the mills closed down, he took up ranching near this city. Here he was in charge of James McMillan's ranch at Shandon, where he had 1,600 acres devoted to grain and stock-raising.

After three years he resigned to accept a position with the S. P. Milling Co., in Paso Robles, which he filled seven months; then was with the Taylor orchard one year, and in 1915 took charge of the McPhail ranch of three hundred twenty acres, where he has set one hundred acres to almonds and is caring for them.

Mr. Ooley was united in marriage in Paso Robles with Miss Emma Garran, who was born in Missouri and came with her parents, James and Eliza (Hodge) Garran, to Paso Robles. The father was a bridge carpenter and worked on the building of the Pacific railroad in this region. Mrs. Ooley was educated in the grammar and high schools of Paso Robles. Mr. and Mrs. Ooley have three children: Bessie Gertrude, Elwood Harris, and Frances Bell. Mr. Ooley is a strong supporter of the Republican party, and is a Knight of Pythias.

**MRS. DOVE EMERSON.**—In all the varied vocabulary coined, nothing is more expressive of the enterprise shown by Mrs. Dove Bennett Emerson than the word "hustler." Her grandfather was Joseph McCubbin, a native Kentuckian, who was one of the first settlers near Carthage, Ill., and who broke the wild prairie with ox teams. He married Ellen Lipsey, whose father, John Lipsey, was a Revolutionary soldier and suffered the loss of a leg; he lived to be one hundred three years of age. Mrs. Emerson's father was Thomas Benton McCubbin, who was born near Carthage and became a farmer and cattleman. He also was a manufacturer of hard-wood lumber, operating three sawmills, and made a specialty of manufacturing coffins. In the eighties he brought his family to California, afterwards making no less than twenty-four trips back and forth across the continent, and now resides at Fresno, at the good old age of seventy-seven. Her mother was Martha (Cameron) McCubbin, also a native of Illinois, and the daughter of John Cameron, who was born in Tennessee, of Scotch descent, and Elizabeth (Lee) Cameron, a sister of the famous "White Horse Harry Lee," father of the illustrious General Robert E. Lee. The mother was, therefore, a cousin of the great Confederate leader, and she looked back with satisfaction to many interesting events in the annals of her family. She died in Fresno county some twenty years ago. Mrs. Emerson's uncle was James Cameron, a member of the Home Guards in Illinois, serving at Carthage at the time when Joseph and Hiram Smith were killed. Afterwards, in 1850, he crossed the great plains to reach the Land of Gold, and died two years later in Hangtown, now Placerville.

Three of the six children born to the McCubbins are still living, Mrs. Emerson being the youngest. She was cradled at Carthage, and while yet a little girl came to California with her parents, residing for a while at Acampo, in San Joaquin county, then moving to Shasta county, and later to Red Bluff, and Fresno. At Selma, Miss McCubbin was married to W. C. Bennett, with whom she came to Paso Robles, where she has since made her home. Three children were born of this union: Clifford Cameron, who

and at the age of eleven; Lorena, who died when two months old; and the baby, who died in infancy. In a railroad accident at Fresno, on October 1, 1909, Mrs. Emerson was injured, her left side being paralyzed, and she seemed unable to obtain medical relief. In the end, when all other means had failed, she was healed through prayer; as a result of this cure, she has since professed the religious faith of a Divine Scientist. An estrangement led to a divorce, after which she began business on her own account, and bought her present house, at the corner of Sixteenth and Spring streets, which she remodeled and improved by the introduction of hot and cold water and private baths, and named it Casa de la Paloma, or "House of the Dove," making it one of the finest and most attractive rooming houses in Paso Robles. In Bakersfield, November 1, 1916, Mrs. Bennett was married to Zaza Emerson, who is a native of Santa Rosa, California. His father, E. S. Emerson, was born in Missouri, served in the Mexican War as a teamster, and came to Sonoma county, California, in 1851, and in 1868 to San Luis Obispo. He died in Kern county. His wife was Julia A. Dunbar, also a native of Missouri. She also came across the plains in an ox-team train in 1849.

Mr. Emerson was reared in this county, but since 1889 he has been engaged in cattle-raising in Kern county, where, with his brothers and a sister, he owns Poleta rancho of six thousand acres, located twelve miles south of Maricopa. Mrs. Emerson is a member of Bethlehem Chapter, No. 95, of the O. E. S., in which she is Past Matron; and she also belongs to the Rebekahs. In politics she is a Democrat; but this party preference never prevents her from lining up with local movements that have for their object the development of Paso Robles into the splendid, up-to-date town it is assuredly destined to become.

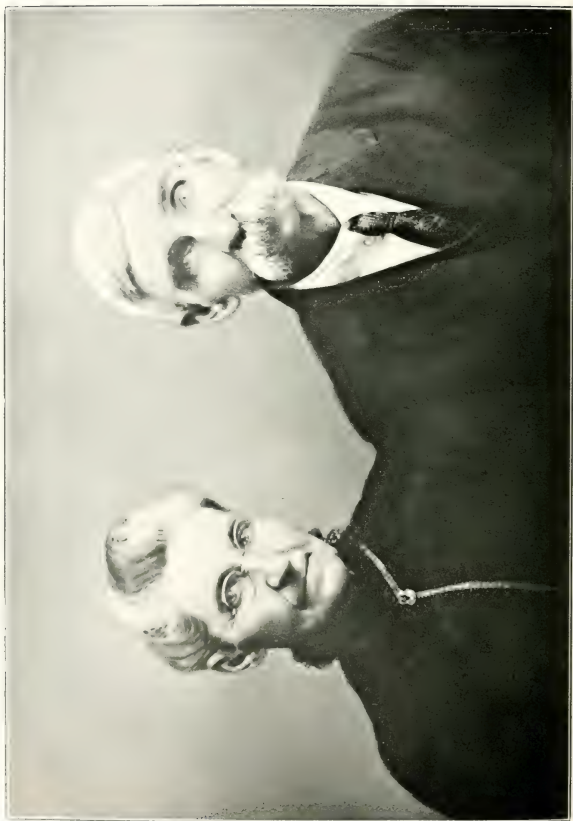
**JOHN B. TULEY.**—A native son of this county, and one who commenced his career on his father's ranch on the Estrella plains, John B. Tuley was born September 27, 1875, a son of W. H. Tuley, of whom mention is made elsewhere. He was reared on the ranch and attended the public school in the Estrella district. He worked for his father until he was eighteen years old, and then leased part of his father's land and, with his brother J. T. Tuley, began raising grain, continuing the partnership for two years. Later the brothers purchased a combined harvester to facilitate the harvesting of their crops and added other labor-saving machinery to their stock on hand.

After J. T. Tuley left, John B. continued to operate the ranch; and as he succeeded, he bought land of his own, partially improved it, and sold this and again purchased, now owning one hundred twenty acres across the road from his father's old home place and one hundred fifty-two acres near by, all devoted to grain and stock. He leases eight hundred acres near his ranch, which he devotes to grain-raising, having four hundred acres seeded to grain, mostly wheat.

Mr. Tuley is a prominent rancher and citizen, and is public-spirited and enterprising. He belongs to Santa Lucia Lodge of Odd Fellows in Paso Robles. He is a trustee of the Estrella school district, the same district in which he went to school. He is a member of the Paso Robles Christian Church.

He was married in San Luis Obispo to Miss Annette L. Skinner, a native of California, who was born in Fresno county, a daughter of James W. Skinner. The latter came across the plains with his father, when nine years of age, in the late forties, to Oregon, and in 1853 to Napa county, California. In





Catherine C. Quinn

H. M. Quinn

1868, he arrived in Cambria, and later he removed to Fresno county, remaining until 1879. He returned to San Luis Obispo County and became a prominent farmer and stockman, and died on the Estrella plains. Of the union of John B. Tuley and Annette L. Skinner four children were born: William Lloyd, Charles Ward, George, and John Beebe. Mr. Tuley is following in the footsteps of his father and is making a name for himself in his community. He is well known throughout the county, believes in progression, and has made a success of his own undertakings. In politics, he is an independent.

**MR. AND MRS. HOWARD MALCOLM LINN.**—A resident of California since 1884, and of Paso Robles two years later, Howard M. Linn has been actively interested in the development of San Luis Obispo County. He was born at Chandlerville, near Zanesville, Muskingum county, Ohio, February 24, 1857, a son of Robert and Mary (Brown) Linn, the former born in Virginia and the latter a native of Muskingum county, Ohio, where the paternal grandfather settled, and where his son Robert grew to manhood and was engaged in farming all his life. There were eight children in the family, although only two are now living: Lucretia Linn, who lives on the old homestead in Ohio, and Howard Malcolm, of this review.

Reared on the home farm, Howard attended the public schools of his locality and finished at the high school in Zanesville. He remained at home until 1884, and then decided to try his fortunes in California. On his arrival here, he went to Colusa county and farmed for two years. In 1886 he came to Paso Robles and entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Milling Company in their planing mill here; he operated a planer about a year, and then, with his wife, located on their present place, which was owned by her, and here he has been successfully engaged in ranching since.

On October 6, 1887, at Park View ranch, the Stockdale home, Mr. Linn and Catherine C. Middleton were united in marriage. Mrs. Linn is a native of Indiana, born near Jasonville, Greene county, January 20, 1862. Her father, Thos. Middleton, a native of Coshocton, Ohio, was a farmer in Indiana. Her mother was Mrs. Rebecca (Exline) Middleton Stockdale, who came to California via Panama in the fall of 1868, bringing her daughter Catherine and accompanied by her brothers, Bernard and Levi Exline. For six weeks they stopped in Eldorado county; and then they came on to San Luis Obispo County, where Mrs. Middleton later homesteaded one hundred sixty acres, the present Stockdale home, where she and her brothers camped the first night they landed in this county. She afterwards married D. F. Stockdale, and died August 21, 1916, at the age of seventy-seven years.

Mrs. Linn was reared on the Stockdale ranch and received her education in the public schools in San Luis Obispo, Estrella and Paso Robles. In those days there were but crude buildings, and they were few in number; and many who attended the schools did so under trying conditions. Mrs. Linn entered the State Normal at San Jose and remained a short time; then, on account of her health, she returned to Paso Robles. She afterwards purchased the quarter section where the Linn family reside, from Norvel Butchard, who had homesteaded it; and here they have erected a new and modern house, and are engaged in the raising of grain and stock. Later one hundred sixty acres were added to the original tract. In 1899, Mr. and Mrs. Linn leased the ranch and moved to Arroyo Grande, and bought six acres adjoining the town, where they engaged in raising vegetables for the following



ten years with remarkable success. They then returned to their own home ranch, where they now reside.

Mrs. Linn has seen this county develop from an almost wild and uninhabited region to its present productiveness and wealth—from the large, fenceless cattle ranches, where the animals ran over a wide range, and only the rodeo, or round-up, once a year to sort over and divide up the stock, broke the monotony of life. Sheep were also scattered everywhere in large bands. Finally came the transition from the large ranges to grain, and now to orchards and fruit of all descriptions, making of the county a veritable garden spot, where once people were led to believe that the land was worthless except for sheep ranges. Paso Robles has grown under her eyes from a place with one store and a couple of houses to its present size, and to its present importance as a commercial and educational center in the central Coast section. She is keenly alive to its future, and with her husband supports all movements that have for their ultimate end the upbuilding of the Paso Robles section.

Mr. and Mrs. Linn have had four children, and three of them are living. Edward O. and Othello C. are both graduates from the State Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo; and Howard F. is a graduate from the Paso Robles high school. All are at home assisting with the farm work. Mr. Linn has served as school trustee for years in the San Marcos district. He was made a Mason in Chandlersville Lodge in Ohio and now holds his membership in Arroyo Lodge, at Arroyo Grande. Both himself and wife are well and favorably known in the Paso Robles and Arroyo Grande sections of the county, and have hosts of friends.

**KARL BEVAN GLASS.**—Every community is fortunate in having a number of young and enterprising men whose liberal views and warm-hearted action form an attractive bond of contact with strangers who come within the community gates. Such a man of winning personality is Karl B. Glass, whose grandfather, the late Dr. D. Glass, who died in 1913, was a prominent physician and surgeon and distinguished himself during the Civil War in the medical department of the service. Karl's father was Dr. James H. Glass, born in Kentucky, where he grew up and was married. He graduated from Baltimore Medical College, practiced medicine in Kentucky, Florida and Kansas, and in 1885 came to California, following his calling in Saratoga, Santa Clara county. When the town of Paso Robles was laid out, he came here and, concluding that it was the most desirable place he could find, settled here and practiced his profession and helped to build up the city. He died in December, 1914, at the age of fifty-seven years. He was always interested in the city of his adoption, and served as a member of the board of trustees, and at one time was president of the board. He was also a stockholder and a director in the Citizens Bank of Paso Robles, and for some years was president of that institution. His wife, before her marriage, was Miss Mettie Hogg, a native of Kentucky and a daughter of Stephen Hogg, a prominent attorney. She was an only child and was reared amid the refinement of a typically Southern environment. She still resides in Paso Robles.

While Dr. Glass was living at Saratoga, their son Karl B. was born, on April 23, 1886, and when his parents moved to Paso Robles and he attained the age of five years he attended the public schools in that town, supplementing his education by attending the military school at Saint Matthew's Military Academy in San

Mateo for three years, finally finishing at the Paso Robles High School. For a time he was in the employ of the Paso Robles Light and Water Co., where he learned considerable about electricity; and having matriculated at Heald's Engineering College, he became proficient as an electrical engineer. He worked at various places in California and finally returned to his home town and was made manager of the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co., which position he held for two and one-half years, when he resigned.

He again undertook electrical work in various towns, and soon was placed in charge of the Midland Company at Paso Robles, where he remained one year. He again toured California and Nevada; but in July, 1915, he returned to Paso Robles and bought out Sutton's livery business, changing the name to the Glass Livery and making it one of the best in this section of the country. He also inaugurated a first-class truck and transfer system in which the automobile plays an important part. This was found to be so satisfactory that he closed out his livery and established an exclusively automobile service under the name of the Glass Transportation Co., of which he is manager, and which operates two trucks and several touring cars with headquarters in a remodeled building opposite the site of his former business.

Mr. Glass was united in marriage at Redwood City with Miss Mabel Pate, who was born near Paso Robles, a daughter of Robert Pate; and they have been blessed with three children: Dorothy, Martha, and James Robert. In social circles Mr. and Mrs. Glass are deservedly popular. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Chamber of Commerce.

**FRANK J. LUNDBECK.**—The senior member of the firm known as the Paso Robles Agricultural Works has been one of the upbuilders of the town of Paso Robles, where for many years he has been connected with the leading business interests. Frank J. Lundbeck was born in Kalmar, Sweden, February 17, 1859, a son of Nils and Ingri Lundbeck. His father was a blacksmith by trade and followed that occupation during his active career. Three of his sons came to the United States, Frank J. and Peter, his twin brother, and John; the latter, a carpenter, died in Austin, Texas.

Frank J. Lundbeck attended the public schools of his native town; and when he was old enough he went into his father's shop to learn the trade, which he followed until he was twenty-one years old. Then he came to America and, locating in Austin, Texas, for about three years was employed in the International railroad shops as a blacksmith. For four years thereafter he worked as blacksmith in the service of the contractor that erected the state capitol building at Austin, resigning then to enter into partnership with his brother Peter in the general blacksmithing business under the firm name of Lundbeck Bros. This partnership continued until 1887, when the brothers sold out and came to California, and for one year carried on a general blacksmithing business at Fresno, meeting with success.

In October, 1888, they came to San Luis Obispo County, and in Paso Robles bought out the old Erdman shop on Twelfth and Railroad streets, where from a very small beginning they built up a large and profitable trade. By 1892, they had outgrown the little shop, and so they erected a large brick building suitable for their needs, in which they installed the most modern machinery. At the time of his brother's death, in 1898, Mr. Lundbeck took in Carl E. Hansen, and the firm then was known as Lundbeck & Hansen; this association continued until Mr. Hansen sold out and retired. Then C. W.

Anderson and Peter Larsen bought an interest in the business, which had grown to goodly proportions, and the firm became known as the Paso Robles Agricultural Works.

The firm have built up the largest business of its kind between San Jose and Los Angeles, and draw their trade from a wide territory surrounding, having work sent them by rail from sixty miles away. The business increased to such proportions that the brick building could not accommodate the machinery, and they erected their present large, commodious structure and installed the latest and most modern machinery to handle every kind of work that might come to them. The plant is run by electric power. They do all kinds of repairing on all kinds of machinery, and also do wood work; and during the busy season they employ fifteen experienced men. The old brick shop was remodeled into a garage service station, fully equipped with modern machinery for the repairing of automobiles, and they have the agency for the Overland and Willys-Knight automobiles.

Mr. Lundbeck was united in marriage in Austin, Texas, with Miss Hattie Mathilda Rosengren, and they have had four children born to brighten their home. Walter is engaged in the plumbing business; Arthur is manager of the Pioneer Garage; Lawrence is an office man with his father's company; and Lottie is the wife of C. W. Anderson, junior member of the firm. Mr. Lundbeck is a prominent member of the Independent Order of Foresters, and has passed through the chairs. He is also a member of the Yeomen and the Knights of Pythias, and a communicant of the Swedish Methodist Church, of whose board of trustees he is chairman. It is safe to say that no one has a wider circle of friends and associates in his community than Mr. Lundbeck, who is respected for his public spirit and upright business principles.

**VICTOR ANDERSON.**—It would be difficult to find a man more emphatically in accord with the true western spirit of progress, or more keenly alive to the opportunities awaiting the industrious and intelligent man of affairs in San Luis Obispo County, than is Victor Anderson, who has here built up a far-reaching stock business, and identified himself with the best undertakings in his district. Out of his own varied experiences he has evolved the theory that any young man with ambition and correct ideas of life may reach his goal, providing his diversions do not include gambling, drinking or kindred destroyers of success and happiness.

A native of Sweden, Victor Anderson was born at Linköping, Östergötland, a son of Andrew J. and Inga Lovisa Anderson, natives and lifelong residents of Sweden, where the father was a large landowner and farmer. He owned some eighteen hundred acres, and ran a water-power sawmill, and marketed his lumber in Linköping. After logging most of it, the place was purchased by the government and trees were planted in rows, and today

Victor Anderson was the third child in a family of seven. He was born in Sweden, was brought up at home, and went to the public schools in Sweden until May, 1883, when he came to the United States. He settled in Union county, Ia., where he worked on a farm for two years. He then moved to Oseeola, Polk county, Neb., and worked one year; and then moved to Sherman county, Kan., and remained two years, when he decided to come to California. In 1889 he located in Paso Robles. He purchased a stock business, and operated it with success for nearly eight years, when he

sold it at a good profit. In the meantime, he had bought his present place of one hundred eight acres. He moved onto it and began clearing the place and erecting buildings suitable for his stock. Here he built a comfortable residence. The place is located on a hill overlooking the Salinas valley, making a splendid view; hence its name—Fair View Farm.

Since locating on his ranch, Mr. Anderson has made a specialty of breeding fine blooded horses for draft; and with this idea in mind, he went East and purchased\*from the importers, in 1909, the stallion *Lampion*, a beautiful Percheron, weighing two thousand one hundred pounds, which was a prize-winner in France as well as here, and is among the finest horses ever brought to the coast. Soon afterwards, Mr. Anderson bought the imported mare *Cocodette*, weighing two thousand pounds, which was also a prize-winner. The bringing of this pure breed has been of much importance to the farmers of this section, and has resulted in improving the stock very materially. He owns the pure-bred mares *Marietta* and *Violet*, each weighing about nineteen hundred pounds.

Mr. Anderson was married in Paso Robles to Miss Emma C. Nelson, who came with her parents from Iowa to Paso Robles. Her father and mother, Henry and Johanna Nelson, natives of Sweden, settled in Iowa, and came to California in 1887. Her father died, and her mother still owns her home ranch in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson are members of the Methodist Church, and he is a member of the official board. Mr. Anderson is also a member of the California Horse Breeders' Association and is much interested in every detail of the stock business that may contribute to its betterment. In politics he is a Republican.

**CHARLES W. ANDERSON.**—The junior member of the company known as the Paso Robles Agricultural Works and an energetic and thrifty man of business, Charles W. Anderson has won a place in the commercial life of San Luis Obispo County, where he is well and favorably known. He was born on April 6, 1874, in Laholm Halland, Sweden, a son of N. P. Anderson, a contractor and builder, and owner of a planing mill in his home town, where he successfully carried on a prosperous business for many years. Charles W. was educated in the public schools of his home city and early showed an aptitude in handling tools. At the age of fourteen he concluded he could start out for himself, and decided that he would come to America. He went to Minneapolis, Minn., in October, 1888, and there worked at the carpenter's trade two years; then he came to San Francisco and took up the blacksmith's trade, following it there and in San Jose. He followed blacksmithing, the machinist's trade and horseshoeing in San Jose until 1910, when he came to Paso Robles and purchased the interest of Mr. Hansen in the firm of Lundbeck & Hansen, the name being changed to its present title of the Paso Robles Agricultural Works, with Mr. Anderson as manager. The business increased rapidly, and their quarters becoming too cramped, they erected, in 1913, their present commodious building. Mr. Anderson planning the construction of it. It is 50x110 ft., with a wing 20x30, and occupies two floors. Modern machinery, operated by electric power, is installed, and every convenience to facilitate the conduct of the business has been carefully attended to. They can make repairs on any kind of machinery, no matter how complicated; and they draw custom from a wide area. The old building is equipped with machinery suited to repairing automobiles, and is used as a

modern garage and service station, known as the "Service Garage." Their horseshoeing department has become popular, and for three months in the year they shoe on an average forty-two horses a day, and have shod as many as fifty-two in one day. The company carries supplies of all kinds for farming machinery, as well as implements of every description.

With Hiram Taylor and John Van Wormer, Mr. Anderson built the Paso Robles Athletic Park, with a standard track and baseball diamond; on the latter the Chicago White Sox trained for two seasons, and the Seals of San Francisco, one season. It is said to be the finest athletic park in the county and a credit to the coast country. The park has lately been taken over by the Paso Robles Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Anderson has been twice married. On the first occasion the ceremony took place in San Jose, the bride being Miss Selma Olsen, who was born in Nebraska; and by this marriage Mr. Anderson had one son, Carl Clifford. Mrs. Selma Anderson died in San Jose. The second marriage occurred in Paso Robles, when he was united with Lottie L. Lundbeck, daughter of Frank J. Lundbeck, mentioned elsewhere in this work. Mr. Anderson is a member of the Knights of Pythias; Fraternal Brotherhood, of which he served as treasurer for several years; Modern Woodmen of America; and the Pythian Sisters. He is a prominent worker in the Chamber of Commerce, of which he served as vice-president two years, and as director four years. Mr. Anderson and his wife have a wide circle of friends, among whom they are popular. He is a progressive citizen, a supporter of all public movements and a booster for Paso Robles.

**ANTON MADER.**—It may be that the desire to maintain the traditions of an enviable ancestry has influenced the life of Anton Mader, for his family were among the oldest of canton Schaffhausen, Switzerland, where he was born in the village of Schleithem, November 14, 1858. His father, Anton Mader, who died in 1861, was a forester and had been reared on the farm. Anton Mader, Jr., attended the public school until he was fourteen; then he was apprenticed to learn the tailor's trade, and served three years under instruction. He then worked at his trade in France, Germany and Switzerland, for six years, and finally drifted back home, where he was employed as a tailor in Basel for three years.

In March, 1884, Mr. Mader came to this country and located in South Chicago; then went to Bloomington, where he took out his first citizenship papers; and then drifted westward into Little Rock and Fort Smith, Ark. For thirteen years thereafter he ran a shop of his own at Hot Springs, Ark., selling out in 1897 to go to Alaska.

Leaving Tacoma, January 20, 1898, on the S. S. "Corona," with a year's supplies and a stock of clothing, he was shipwrecked off Louis Island, near Ft. Wrangle, when three days out, and lost everything, although all the passengers were safely landed. Mr. Mader gave up his trip and returned to Tacoma. From there he came on down to San Francisco in February, 1898, where he was employed at his trade on Montgomery street for three years. In February, 1901, he came to Paso Robles and opened a tailor shop. Within eighteen months he enlarged his shop and opened a clothing and gents' furnishing store; and for fifteen years he has continued in the same location, building up a good business in this section of the county and becoming well

Besides his store, Mr. Mader is interested in horticulture and has twenty-eight acres set to almonds, two miles north of the town, in which he takes a great deal of pride. He was married in Hot Springs, Ark., to Hattie Trimble, a native of Texas, who died two years later. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and was for some years in the Uniformed Rank, K. of P. He took out his final papers of citizenship in San Luis Obispo County, and votes the Republican ticket. He is a fine example of the self-made man and his success is worthy of record.

**LYMAN BREWER.**—The keen and far-seeing judgment which led Mr. Brewer to cast in his lot with the far West, also led him to make investments in property here, and to become a factor in the upbuilding of Paso Robles. He was born in Buffalo, N. Y., July 31, 1859, a son of Frederick H. and Rebecca (Holmes) Brewer, natives of Norwich, Conn., and Troy, N. Y., respectively. The father was for many years a general merchandise broker and insurance agent at Buffalo, who later retired to Mystic, Conn., where he and his wife now live in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest. They had four daughters and one son.

Lyman Brewer, when a lad of seven, settled with his parents in Mystic, Conn., and there attended the public schools, graduating finally from the high school. In 1876, he came to California and stopped with an uncle, A. L. Brewer, who was proprietor of the St. Matthews Military School in San Mateo, and here young Brewer finished his education in 1879, when he graduated.

After his graduation from the military school, Lyman Brewer entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railway Co. as assistant agent at San Mateo, and while there he learned telegraphy. He was soon transferred to San Francisco and made freight bill clerk for the Coast division in the offices at Fifth and Townsend. When the railroad was completed to Templeton, in 1886, Mr. Brewer was sent there as agent for the company, and also became agent for Wells-Fargo Express Company. The station was located in a box-car until the building was completed for that purpose.

In 1892, he resigned from the Southern Pacific Co. and came to Paso Robles and accepted a position as assistant cashier in the Citizens Bank. At the end of seven years he resigned, to become agent for Wells-Fargo Express Co. in that city, which position he has held ever since, while he has built up a large and paying business for the company. Besides attending to the express business, Mr. Brewer acts as agent for several insurance companies, and is a notary public.

Since becoming a resident of Paso Robles he has taken a very active part in public affairs and served two terms as city trustee, and for four years as president of the board. He also served as a member of the board of school trustees for thirteen years; and in 1900 he was appointed Justice of the Peace to fill a vacancy and has been re-elected to the office each successive election since. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce of Paso Robles.

Mr. Brewer is prominent in lodge circles. He was made a Mason in Paso Robles Lodge, No. 286, F. & A. M.; is a member of Santa Lucia Lodge No. 350, I. O. O. F., of which he is Past Grand, and represented the lodge at the Grand Lodge several times; is a charter member and past Chancellor Commander of Paso Robles Lodge No. 14, K. of P.; and is a charter member and past officer of the Modern Woodmen of America.

Mr. Brewer was married in San Francisco to Miss Eva Cross, a native of that city, and a daughter of Thomas Cross, a pioneer mining man of this state. Mr. and Mrs. Brewer have had four children born to them: Irene, Mrs. McConnell of Parkfield; Ruth, Mrs. Homer Hatch of Paso Robles; Frederick; and Lyman, who died in 1913, and who was his father's assistant for six years. Mr. Brewer has worked his own way to the position he now occupies by perseverance and by giving close attention to details. He is very public-spirited, popular and progressive, has a wide acquaintance throughout the coast section, and is one of the most highly respected citizens of Paso Robles. He is a member of the Episcopal Church. In politics he favors the Republican party.

**BERNARDO F. CAREAGA.**—A native son of Santa Barbara county, Bernardo F. Careaga was born on the old Careaga home place in Los Alamos valley, January 14, 1886, the son of Ramon F. and Antonia Careaga, natives of San Benito county of Spanish and French descent, respectively. Ramon F. Careaga settled in the Los Alamos valley, where, in partnership with his brother, John B. Careaga, and a Captain Harris, he became a successful stockman and a large landowner. When they dissolved partnership, Ramon became owner of over seven thousand acres, now the Careaga estate, where he followed stock-raising and farming. He also leased land to the Western Union Oil Co., who were successful in boring for oil and now have over forty wells.

Ramon and his wife leased their ranch and retired to San Jose, where he died in 1915, and where the widow now resides. Their family numbers eleven children. Louis S. resides in Santa Barbara; Ramon, John F., and Mrs. Eleanor Carr are of San Jose; Bernardo F. is the subject of this review; Charles resides on the Western Union lease; and Antonio, James, Rita, Evangeline and Angela are all of San Jose.

Ben Careaga, as he is familiarly known, was educated in the public schools and at the Santa Barbara Business College. From a lad he learned to ride after stock and to care for cattle, remaining with and assisting his father until eighteen years of age. Then he and his brother, J. F. Careaga, ran their father's ranch on shares until his death, when they leased the whole ranch and continued farming and stock-raising.

He is now specializing in raising beans, as well as in stock-raising, and the breeding of horses and Durham and Hereford cattle. He has a splendid herd on the place, his brand being the combination HS. He puts in about two hundred acres of beans each year, and in 1916 he raised over fourteen hundred sacks. He has demonstrated his ability as a successful farmer, and keeps the land well cultivated and in good condition.

Mr. Careaga was married at Santa Ynez on December 20, 1911, to Miss Augusta Emma Hawkins, who was born near Galveston, Tex., and came when a babe with her parents to the Pacific Coast. She is the daughter of James Leonidas and Eloise (Booth) Hawkins, natives of Georgia and Alabama, respectively, who came of old Virginia stock. They were married in Texas, where Mr. Hawkins was a cattle raiser until he removed to eastern Oregon, and thence to Santa Barbara county. He is now proprietor of an oil station in Santa Barbara. His wife passed away in 1908. Of this union there were eight children: Pearl, Mrs. Vance of Santa Barbara; Dr. James L., a physician in Chicago; Homer L., of Santa Barbara; Augusta



*B. F. Lareaga*





Emma, Mrs. B. F. Careaga; Susan, Mrs. Vance of Santa Barbara; Myrtle, Mrs. Charles M. Careaga of this valley; Hoke M. and Theme, who are engaged in the auto-livery business in Santa Barbara.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Careaga have two children, William Bernard and Eugene Francis.

Mr. Careaga is highly esteemed by everyone for his integrity and honesty of purpose; and both he and his estimable wife are well received and well and favorably known throughout the central Coast region.

**HIRAM S. CAHILL.**—Doubtless his quick, keen judgment of men and affairs has had much to do both with the business success and with the personal popularity of Hiram S. Cahill, the extensive dealer in cattle. However that may be, there is no denying that everyone who makes the acquaintance of this native son is impressed with his geniality and magnetism. He was born in San Jose on October 7, 1871. His father was John Cahill, a native of Indiana and a "forty-niner." The elder Cahill crossed the plains to California when he was only seventeen years old, in the usual ox train, and exposed to all the dangers and privations of the time; and after mining a while in the northern part of the state, he took to stock-raising. On a trip back to Missouri he was married, at St. Louis, to Miss Dora Spratt, a native of that state, and by way of Panama they came to their California ranches, finally establishing a residence in what was then a part of Fresno county, but now belonging to Kings. As a cattleman John Cahill became quite successful, driving his herds to San Jose and San Francisco markets. About 1872, he removed his headquarters and residence to Monterey county, ten miles east of Parkfield, where he conducted a cattle business until his demise, which occurred in 1890, when he was fifty-six years old. He was a member of the Masonic lodge in San Jose. After his death his widow continued to manage his estate with the aid of her two sons until she moved to San Jose, where she still resides. Her sons then took charge of the estate. Four sons and three daughters, all living, are children of this family: Hiram S., the subject of this sketch; Harry and Frank, who are in Arizona; Cora and Ada, who are at San Jose; William, who is a farmer in Kings county; and Clara, who teaches at Oakland.

While a lad on the ranch Hiram Cahill attended the public school, after which he entered Chestnutwood Business College at Santa Cruz, from which he was graduated on February 20, 1891. He had learned the cattle business while at home; and his father dying when he was nineteen, he returned to the ranch and until 1896 assisted the rest of the family on the farm. In that year he started a stock business for himself, leasing the old home ranch and managing as many as five thousand acres, besides a large range where he had about eight hundred head of cattle. At the sale of the old Cahill place, in 1906, he accepted a position as foreman of the Topo ranch, near King City, where he had charge of thirteen thousand acres, the property of James F. Dunne; and this ranch he continued to supervise for three years.

When he resigned, he engaged in the cattle business in Kings county, leasing a ranch until 1915, when he formed his present partnership with H. Taylor in the firm of Taylor & Cahill. Thereupon they leased the Sargent ranch of fourteen thousand acres at Bradley, Monterey county, which they have stocked with cattle, bringing train loads from Mexico and Nevada. This ranch is equipped with a shipping corral and siding, and is up to date in every respect.

In 1915, Mr. Cahill purchased his elegant residence at the corner of Fourteenth and Pine streets, Paso Robles, and there he resides with his good wife, who was in maidenhood Idonia Ogden, born at Cambria, San Luis Obispo County, the daughter of William and Melissa (Vaughan) Ogden, natives of Pennsylvania and Mississippi respectively. They crossed the plains in the early fifties, separately, and were married in Visalia. Mr. Ogden was a pioneer cattle grower and dairyman near Cambria. He was a member of Cambria Lodge of Masons, and died in 1890, while the mother now resides near Bakersfield. Mrs. Cahill is the fourth oldest of eight children, of whom seven are living, and was reared and educated in San Luis Obispo County until her marriage at Parkfield, on November 11, 1896. Mr. Cahill is a life member of Salinas Lodge No. 614, B. P. O. E., in the circles of which he is highly esteemed.

**AMBERT C. MOREHOUSE.**—The popular manager of the Farmers' Alliance Business Association, Ambert C. Morehouse, is the son of the late Charles D. Morehouse, of Paso Robles. Charles D. Morehouse was born in Broome county, N. Y. He removed to Michigan, and in that state he was married. From Michigan he went to Iowa, whence he crossed the plains in 1852, with his wife and three children, in a prairie schooner drawn by ox teams, locating at Diamond Spring. There reasonable success attended his efforts as a miner, but he soon went to Sacramento to farm. In 1854 the family located on a farm near Healdsburg, Sonoma county, where they resided for fourteen years, eventually settling, in October, 1868, at the southern end of Monterey county, where they remained over winter. Mr. Morehouse then moved to Indian valley, where he resided for a time; but 1871 found him taking up a homestead of a hundred sixty acres in the Summit district, and here he remained for thirty years. When he retired, a wonderful old man at the age of eighty, he prepared to enjoy himself at Paso Robles, and twelve years more were granted him among his friends. Ambert's mother was born in Indiana and passed away here in 1914 at the age of eighty-seven. Nine boys and two girls were born to this pioneer couple, their names and locations being as follows: Harvey B., of Watsonville; William L., of Parkfield; Clara, now Mrs. C. S. Grove, who lives in Summit district; Franz, who is in King City; John, of Santa Maria; Frank, who resides at Whittier; and Lucretia (now Mrs. Findley), Charles D., Jr., D. N., Ed. S., and Ambert C., of Paso Robles.

Ambert Morehouse was born on January 16, 1877, twelve miles west of Paso Robles, in the Summit school district, and grew up on the farm. He attended the public school and even completed the first year of a high school course; but he soon joined his brother in the purchase of some eighty acres adjoining the old home, and planted the same to grain. The brothers worked together until 1901, when they sold the improved farm and moved to Paso Robles, where they opened a harness shop, which they conducted for two years. When they dissolved partnership, Ambert Morehouse went into the employ of the Farmers' Alliance Warehouse, where he remained for about a year, after which he was engaged as a clerk in Bell's store. Two years later he was back in the warehouse, and after another two years he was clerking

Something better was in store for Mr. Morehouse, however. At the end of twelve months he was made foreman, and by March, 1913, manager of the

Farmers' Alliance Business Association, which had been established in June, 1891, and is justly regarded as one of the pillars in the commercial stability of Paso Robles. In preparation for this responsible position, Mr. Morehouse for some time worked under the former manager, and also pursued and successfully completed a business course in the International Correspondence School of Scranton, Pa.

At the old Mission town, San Luis Obispo, in 1906, Ambert Morehouse led to the altar Miss Florence M. Heaton, a native of Indiana, and a daughter of the well-known citizen, P. A. Heaton; and today their children, Lawrence, Elmer, Evelyn, Marion, Raymond and David, give brightness to the home, which is in their own residence, built by Mr. Morehouse, at the corner of Seventeenth and Park streets. Their religious affiliation is with the Christian Church. In fraternal life, Ambert Morehouse joins with the Knights of Pythias, of which he is a past chancellor commander, and district deputy grand chancellor. He sits in the high councils of the Republicans, having served as a member of the executive committee of the county central committee.

**MICHAEL SHINNERS.**—A native of good old Tipperary, Michael Shinnors was educated in the schools of Ireland. Coming to the United States as a young man, he made his way to the state of Michigan, where he had a brother. His first employment was with the railroad; but hearing of still more golden opportunities in California, he came to the Coast in 1877, getting sidetracked, temporarily, in Oregon, where he put in seven years as foreman for the Oregon Railroad & Navigation Co., staying with them until the completion of their road. Thereupon he returned to California and entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Co.; and the superintendent being quick to see both native talent and experience, Michael was made road-master of the division having Paso Robles for its headquarters.

In this position he remained many years, when he was transferred to the San Joaquin district, of the same railroad, and for nearly three years had his headquarters at Tulare. From there he was transferred to Ventura, still working in the same capacity, and he was road-master of the Bakersfield division when he resigned in 1906. About 1900, before being transferred from the Paso Robles division, he received a gold medal from the Southern Pacific Railroad Co. for the best section on the entire Coast.

Having always kept a home at Paso Robles, he returned here to live, and never having lost his confidence in the town's future, he purchased more property and developed his realty interests. He built his handsome residence, and he also built the Opera House building, at the corner of Thirteenth and Park streets, still a part of his estate. He died at Paso Robles, on May 7, 1910, in the fifty-eighth year of his age, and was mourned as a good citizen, a staunch Democrat, a wise family man and a kind neighbor.

On February 9, 1886, at San Francisco, Michael Shinnors was married to Miss B. W. Tracy, a native of Kildare, Ireland, who came to San Jose with her brother in 1875. In addition to the town realty just referred to, Mrs. Shinnors owns a good grain farm of four hundred acres on the Estrella plains. With her at the old home resides her niece, Mary Bergin. A member of the Catholic Church and of its ladies' societies, Mrs. Shinnors is a hospitable, affable and kind-hearted woman of recognized business acumen, strict integrity, and good, common sense.

**KNEPPEL BROS.**—Whoever has knocked about a little on the Continent in Europe cannot have failed to be impressed with the gigantic stature, the superb and comely muscular form, and the marvelous strength of the Belgian horses, so extensively used in other countries than the little kingdom from which the breed takes its famous name. That this perhaps unequalled breed of horse-flesh has at last, and successfully, found a place in the natural history of California, is due in no small degree to the bold enterprise and high ideals of the Kneppel brothers, of Adelaida, who some years ago determined to raise the standard of draft horses here and, in pursuance of that resolution, ventured a good deal in the risk that has been so well rewarded. Born near Hamburg, Germany, the sons of Peter and Catharina (Zornig) Kneppel, farmers still residing in the vicinity of the old Hanseatic city, William and Peter Kneppel came of a family of eleven children, some of whom have emigrated to America. John, for example, is a dairyman at Clarksburg; Jacob, Martin and Henry are engaged in the same line near Franklin, Sacramento county; Marcus is serving in the German Army in front of Verdun; Hermann, who was in the German Army, is now among the physically disabled soldiers; Anna and Elsa are both married to husbands who are in the German Army on the Russian front, while Claus was accidentally drowned when very young. Like all German youth, the Kneppel children attended and profited by the superior schools in the vicinity of their home, thus receiving at the outset of their careers the foundation of an excellent education.

In 1886, William Kneppel came to America. He was followed, two years later, by his brother Peter, after which the other brothers found their way across the ocean. For a while William and Peter worked for their uncle, Jacob Schultz, an extensive dairyman at Franklin, Sacramento county, but in 1890 they came to San Luis Obispo County, where they took up dairying near the coast. They soon afterward located homesteads on the top of the Santa Lucia range of mountains, on the Adelaida side, but they found that this was not what they wanted, and so sold out.

In 1904, the brothers formed their present partnership, buying the old "Doc" Harris place of a hundred sixty acres, on the east fork of Las Tablas Creek, where they began farming and stock-raising. Little by little they added to this property by additional purchases, until now they own three hundred twelve acres alongside of a running stream. There are numerous springs upon the land, and the finest mountain water is piped from one of the springs to both house and barns. Not satisfied with this undertaking, they have rented another ranch, and now operate in all some four hundred seventy-two acres.

All this land is stocked with horses and cattle; but the specialty through which the Kneppels have made themselves famous is their Belgian horses, of which they have the finest specimens in the county, and there is no finer breed of draft horses in the state. Starting with the great advantages in climate and in their rich adobe land, with its water facilities, Messrs. Kneppel wisely selected the Belgian strain of horses as the best, and the visitor to their ranch is astonished at the magnificent display made there of draft horses. Their first importation, at a cost of \$2500, was the big Garrett Belgian stallion, Electant, which weighed one thousand nine hundred twenty pounds, and which has become the sire of some of the finest horses in the



John Thompson and William H. Thompson



country. After a few years they disposed of him and bought the big bay Belgian stallion, Favario ("Favorite"), which weighed one thousand eight hundred fifty pounds, and also cost \$2500. Bred to high-grade mares, Favario became the sire of some splendid three-quarter Belgian horses. This horse was sold in 1915, whereupon they purchased, at a cost of \$3000, the big bay Belgian stallion Michel, with the imposing weight of two thousand two hundred fifty pounds. Without question, this is the finest Belgian horse, not only in the San Luis Obispo district, but in the wide area of the state.

As a result, Kneppel Bros. now have some of the finest draft horses in California, one half, three quarters, and seven eighths Belgian, for which, of course, they receive the highest of prices. The only time, however, that they have exhibited their horse-flesh at any public show was when they entered some of their horses at the Upper Salinas Valley Fair in Paso Robles, and it need hardly be said that, as a reward, they were given the blue ribbon.

It is to men like William and Peter Kneppel that San Luis Obispo County owes much of its present substantial development; for by the nerve they displayed, they showed that they were not afraid to venture in an enterprise new and untried in these parts. As a result, they have established a precedent which others are now following, and which means so much added valuation to the horse-flesh in the county, to say nothing of the additional beauty of the animals. The Kneppel brothers are very enterprising, liberal and progressive along all lines, and both have always shown their willingness to give of their time and means towards any movement that has for its aim the upbuilding of the community and the uplift of its citizens. In religious faith and preference, they are Lutherans; and in political affiliation they are true-blue Republicans, at all times leaders in progress and examples of loyal and intelligent citizenship.

**MR. AND MRS. ALFRED R. BOOTH.** Not many years ago the civilized and deeply humane world was thrilled at the news, flashed far and wide, of a heroic rescue of shipwrecked sailors in the bleak Arctic North, made possible only by almost superhuman energy and almost unexampled bravery on the part of those who went after the supposedly lost. Among those who especially distinguished themselves, and to whom Congress gave a medal for extraordinary performance, was Dr. Samuel J. Call, whose sacred dust now mingles with the historic soil of Hollister. Dr. Call was surgeon to the American Revenue Cutter Service, and was made a member of the Overland Relief Expedition, sent out to rescue the whalers in the Arctic Ocean, stranded at Point Barrow. He was a brother of Mrs. A. R. Booth, the esteemed resident of Paso Robles.

For eight long months, from the time when the revenue cutter left Cape Vancouver, on December 16, 1897, until the sturdy vessel returned to Seattle on August 16, 1898, Dr. Call and his associates were exposed to painful privations and the most imminent dangers, and yet were able to minister both to those found sick and distressed along the route, and to the shipwrecked crews of the whalers "Rosario," "Fearless," "Newport" and "Joan of Arc." Before he again set foot upon dry and safe land, Dr. Call had to travel over snows and through rains and blizzards, on dog sleds and over great floes of ice; and it is but natural that those of his kith and kin who have the honor of claiming a blood relationship should be proud of what this intrepid man of science thus accomplished. Dr. Call was a graduate of the Cooper Medical



College in San Francisco, and as an officer of the Overland Relief Expedition was associated in the rescue work with Jarvis and Berthoff.

The late Alfred R. Booth was the second youngest of ten children, and a native of Mount Clements, Mich., where he was born on July 28, 1835. His grandfather was an Englishman of a very old English family, boasting its coat of arms, who brought his family to Philadelphia and who died in the Quaker city on September 8, 1816, at the age of nearly sixty-eight years. His grandmother was Miss Elizabeth Benge, whose demise took place in the Quaker city. Alfred's father was the Rev. John Booth, of Chatham, England, who was born on August 6, 1796, became a Baptist clergyman, and preached in Michigan, where he died on July 18, 1869, his good wife preceding him to the spirit abode on September 21, seven years previously. This wife, before her marriage, was Miss Jane Ann Wisdom, a daughter of William Wisdom, a native of Ireland. She was born in Philadelphia on December 7, 1798, and died, as did her husband, at Fenton, Genesee county, Mich.

Alfred was educated at Kalamazoo College, and soon after finishing his studies opened the first drug store at Fenton. In 1857, he came to the Pacific Coast, via the Isthmus of Panama, and with John Booth, a brother, engaged in the sheep business at Dallas, in Oregon. Ten years were spent in the state of Washington and in British Columbia in mining and business enterprises, after which Mr. Booth went to Idaho and Nevada. Again he engaged in the drug business, this time at Tuscarora, Elko county, Nev., and in 1878 he came to San Luis Obispo and bought out the Eagle Drug Store. This was continued as Booth & Latimer's, and about the same time he started the first drug store in Paso Robles, in reality before the town was laid out.

At first he opened his apothecary shop in Patsy Dunn's store near the hotel, and later he removed to the corner of Twelfth and Spring streets. Eventually he sold his San Luis Obispo interests, and in 1888 confined himself to the Paso Robles establishment. This, however, was disposed of in time, and then Mr. Booth turned to real estate.

At Elko, in Nevada, on May 7, 1878, he had married Mrs. Susanna (Call) Rayner, who was born at Carpenterville, near Terre Haute, Ind., the daughter of George W. and Elizabeth (Johnson) Call, natives of Kentucky. Her father had come to Indiana as a farmer, later moving to Missouri, and in 1864 had crossed the plains with a large company, joining Andrews and Hurd, the train being in charge of John Hurd. On the way they were suddenly attacked by Indians, but the company was large enough to take care of itself, and the savages were repulsed. A smaller train, following just behind, however, and also soon after attacked by the same bands of redskins, was unable to offer the necessary resistance, and every member of the party, to the last man, woman and child, was massacred. Coming to Boise City, Ida., George W. Call engaged in farming and freighting; and while in Idaho, Mrs. Booth pursued her education. Mr. Call spent his last days in San Benito county, dying at the age of seventy-three years; while the mother now resides there at the very advanced age of ninety-eight. Of nine children, Mrs. Booth was

Mr. Booth was prominently identified with real estate interests in Paso Robles and gave much time and means to the building up of the town; and there on March 16, 1906, he died, respected and lamented by everyone. Mr. Booth was for four years postmaster of Paso Robles, and held that office

at the time of his death. A member and Past Master of Paso Robles Lodge No. 286, F. & A. M., he also belonged to the Royal Arch Chapter and Commandery at San Luis Obispo. He was a Republican, and a member of the Baptist Church. Four children survive, and are an honor to their parents: Fred G. Booth, proprietor of the Eagle Pharmacy in Paso Robles; Frank J. Booth, a mining engineer for ten years in Mexico; Eugene L. Booth, the popular automobile manager here; and Clara J. Booth, who resides at home.

Since Alfred Booth's death his widow has resided in Paso Robles, supervising certain business interests, and also contributing in whatever way she can to the building up of the city. She worships at the Episcopal Church and participates in its charitable undertakings.

**EMANUEL DAVID KUHNLE.** Among those prominent citizens who were interested in the development of the resources of the section about Paso Robles in San Luis Obispo County, mention should be made of the late Emanuel David Kuhnle, who came to this section in 1890 and made it the scene of his activities the rest of his life. He was born in Schandorf, Germany, June 23, 1863, in which country his parents, Frederick and Rosine Kuhnle, spent their entire lives. Of their five children, all boys, four came to the United States and two are living, Mr. Kuhnle being the second youngest of all. He was educated in the public schools and learned the trade of baker, which he followed until he was eighteen, when he decided to see what the new world was like, and what opportunities it held.

In 1881, he left home and friends, came to America and located near Detroit, Mich., where he went to work on a farm. Desiring to make a home for himself and go where he could get government land, in 1884 he homesteaded one hundred sixty acres near Lyle, Klickitat county, Wash., and at once began clearing and improving it. It was during the six years of his residence there that Mr. Kuhnle was married, the event being celebrated at The Dalles, Ore., August 14, 1885, when he was united with Miss Sarah Denney, a native of Platte county, Mo.

Mrs. Kuhnle was the daughter of Jefferson and Rhoda (Burnett) Denney, natives of Kentucky and Virginia, respectively. Her father farmed in Missouri until he went to Washington and bought a place at Lyle. Returning to Missouri again, he lived there until his death. There were eleven children in the Denney family, nine of whom are now living. Mrs. Denney is still living at the old home in Missouri. The daughter, Sarah, was brought up in Platte county, Mo., was educated in the schools of that place, and was married in Oregon, as stated.

In 1890, with his family, Mr. Kuhnle came to San Luis Obispo County, bought a ranch on Estrella plains, and improved it for raising grain. The six hundred sixty-six acres that he purchased is still owned by the family and is being sown to grain each year, and large crops are being raised. Mr. Kuhnle passed away June 8, 1910. He was a Republican in politics. He was a friend of education and served as a trustee of the Estrella district for several years, and was a member of the Baptist Church. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Kuhnle continued to run the ranch until the fall of 1915, when she leased it to her sons and moved to Paso Robles.

Into the home of Mr. Kuhnle and his wife six children were born. Frederick J. is on the home place; Lottie B., Mrs. Maloney, resides in the Estrella district; Frank I. assists with the conduct of the home place; Dena D., Mrs.

Mulhall, is in San Jose; Mary E. and H. Dwight are at home with their mother. Mrs. Kuhnle is a member of the Baptist Church and is a Republican; and like her husband, she is public-spirited and is a supporter of all movements for the uplifting of the people and the development of the county where she lives.

**ROBERT ALEXANDER RAINEY.**—A prominent rancher and fruit grower of the Cholame section of San Luis Obispo County, and a man who has seen the western part of the United States grow from a sparsely settled section to one of great wealth and productiveness, Robert A. Rainey now is in a position to enjoy life and look back over the hardships he endured with a feeling that his life has been well spent. He was born in County Monaghan, near the town of Monaghan, Ireland, September 19, 1851, a son of Robert and Sarah (Boyd) Rainey. Robert Rainey was born in the same county, and owned a large estate known as Caura Maxwell, and his home was known as Maxwell Cottage. He was a fine horseman, and for years was successfully engaged in buying horses for the English government and in raising fine stock himself. His death was the result of an accident while exercising a horse, the latter rearing, and in the fall crushing him against a wall. Mrs. Sarah Rainey was of Scotch ancestry, born in County Armagh, Ireland, where she passed her last days. Six children were born to this couple, of whom three sons are in California: Robert, the subject of this sketch, John, and William.

Robert A. Rainey, the second from the youngest child in the family, was reared on the estate of his father and attended the public school and also Armagh College. Completing his college course, when twenty-two years old, he entered the office of a large linen factory in Armagh and worked his way to the management of the concern. He came to San Francisco on May 12, 1875, with letters from his firm to some of the leading merchants there; but he did not present them. He went to Los Angeles instead when that town was small, and found work on a ranch near the town. There he had a chance to buy property for five hundred dollars that is now in the heart of the city; But Mr. Rainey, like many others, could not recognize his opportunity and so let it pass.

In the fall of 1875 he went to Mendocino county and was employed as head edger by the Mendocino Lumber Co. in the Big River sawmill for six years, after which he went to Reno, Nev., attracted by the big wages offered, but did not remain. He traveled up through Oregon, Washington and Idaho, finding plenty of land open for location, but did not take any. He was in Seattle when that city was a small town; and from there he went to Umatilla, worked a season, and then came back to Eureka, Cal., by boat, and then down the coast into Mendocino county once more, and was employed at Cuffey's Cove, Greenwood and Westport in turn. In 1885, we find him in San Luis Obispo County, where he has since resided.

Upon locating in San Luis Obispo County, he homesteaded and pre-empted three hundred twenty acres of land and began improving it with buildings and breaking part of it for grain. Before her marriage, Mrs. Rainey had homesteaded one hundred sixty acres adjoining, and later he bought another tract of one hundred sixty acres; so his holdings now aggregate an entire section of land in one body. Here he has continued to raise grain, horses, cattle and hogs. Besides his own land, he leased other parcels and raised grain on a large scale and met with most gratifying success. He has a





Carl E. Hanson Gustava Hanson

family orchard of several varieties, besides almonds, apricots, figs, prunes and grapes, showing that almost every variety of fruit can be grown in this section. He was among the very first settlers in this locality and for a time raised horses and cattle exclusively. He owned some oil land in the Devil's Den country, but disposed of it. From 1892 till 1894, during the dry seasons, he took his teams to Bakersfield and was employed on the construction of the East Side canal and afterwards on the construction of the railroad from Bakersfield to McKittrick.

Mr. Rainey was united in marriage in San Francisco, April 13, 1887, with Miss Eva Mann, a native of St. John's, N. B., and a daughter of John Mann, who was engaged in the contracting business, supplying ties and logs for railroad work. He came to Navarro Ridge, Cal., in 1870, and followed his line of work; and later the family moved to Albion, and then to Mendocino City, where he died in 1903, aged ninety-seven years. His widow, Annie J. Henderson, also a native of New Brunswick, and of Scotch descent, now resides in Stanislaus county and is eighty-five years old. Mrs. Rainey was educated in the public schools at Little River. To Mr. and Mrs. Rainey three children have been born: Eugene A., who died in 1903, aged fifteen years; Alice I., a graduate of the high school, and now the wife of Charles Bush of Coalinga; and Vivian Boyd, who attends the high school. In order to give his children better educational advantages, Mr. Rainey purchased a place in Paso Robles, to which he moved his family in 1890, and there they have since resided; but he still operates the ranch.

He is a member of the Odd Fellows and of the Presbyterian Church. Mrs. Rainey is a member of the Baptist Church. The family have a wide circle of friends throughout this portion of the county, by whom they are highly respected.

**CARL E. HANSON.**—Among the foremost of the many sons of Sweden who have located in California and have not only made a success of their own work, but have taken a prominent part in the development of commercial and social organizations of the localities where they may have settled, is worthy citizen Carl E. Hanson. He was born near Gottenborg, July 19, 1854, a son of Hans Inglebretsen, a farmer in Sweden, who came to Minnesota and lived until his death on his farm. Carl was reared on a farm and had the advantages of the public schools for an education.

In May, 1873, he came to the United States and located in Red Wing, Goodhue county, Minn., and in 1874 began learning the trade of wheelwright, working in one shop until 1886, after which he turned his attention to farming in Grant county, purchasing a farm of two hundred forty-eight acres. This he improved and farmed to wheat for five years, when he sold out, and in 1891 came to California.

Locating in Paso Robles, his wife's parents having settled in Willow Creek, he entered the employ of Lundbeck Bros. as wheelwright and continued with them until he bought the interest of Peter Lundbeck, after which the firm was known as Lundbeck & Hanson. There Mr. Hanson had charge of the wagon and carriage work until 1912, when he sold out his interests and retired to private life. In 1913 he bought his present place, a five-acre block in Templeton with a comfortable residence, where he has a small orchard and garden and is quietly enjoying his well-earned rest. He is a Republican in politics and with his wife is a member of the Swedish Lutheran Church,

of which he is also a deacon and trustee. He has been a supporter of all movements that have helped to build up the county, and is a self-made man in every sense of the word.

In Red Wing, Minn., on November 11, 1882, occurred the marriage of Carl E. Hanson with Gustava Anderson, a native of Vermland, Sweden, who came to Minnesota with her parents when she was a child of ten years. She is a daughter of Andrew and Christina (Hendrickson) Anderson, who moved from Minnesota in 1889, locating on a farm in Willow Creek, where they lived until they retired and spent their last days with Mr. and Mrs. Hanson. Mr. and Mrs. Hanson have had five children to brighten their home: Esther, a teacher; Arthur, in San Francisco; Mabel, Mrs. Abramson, near Templeton; Bud, a butcher at King City; and Carl, who is attending the local school.

**HOWARD A. HAWKINS.**—Possibly no other State in the Union has a higher percentage than California of self-made men. A striking example of this invaluable class is Howard A. Hawkins, who was born near Red Wing, Goodhue county, in the vast and enterprising North Star State. His father, Ole Hawkins, was a native of Bleking, Sweden, was reared in Skaane, and came to the United States a young man, settling near Red Wing. For a while he homesteaded a hundred twenty acres, and later bought the forty acres adjoining, all of which he still possesses in his retirement at the splendid age of eighty-three. Nature also dealt kindly with Howard's mother, Kjersti (Nelson) Hawkins, who lived until December, 1916. Thirteen children formed the family, of whom Howard was the fourth eldest, and twelve are still alive. Two brothers of Mr. Hawkins are in California: Edward, who resides in Modesto, and Elmer, who lives in Taft. Dividing his time as a boy between the public schools and the life of a farmer in Minnesota, Howard remained at home helping his father until he was twenty-four years of age. In 1887, he came to California and located in San Luis Obispo County. With him were a party of thirty-three, and a more promising set of pioneers never identified themselves with this section. They took up farming at Templeton, and Howard remained there several years, raising grain.

For eleven years he rented the old Blackburn Ranch of six hundred forty acres, south of Templeton and finally he bought three hundred seventy-seven acres east of Templeton, in 1908, from the West Coast Land Co. In the fall of 1910, Mr. Hawkins came to his present place, adjoining his other land, comprising one hundred fifty-three acres two and one-half miles east of Templeton, and rented it for a while; but the following year he bought it and now owns in all some five hundred thirty acres in one body—a fine ranch with excellent buildings and many improvements. Cattle, horses and grain are a feature of the farm, on which a small combined harvester, drawn by twelve horses, is operated, being used also to do excellent service on neighboring ranches. He is raising Soudan grass on his place, and this he cuts twice a year, gathering a big crop. In addition to his other ranching he has a few head of dairy cattle, and this constitutes another

On October 31, 1894, Mr. Hawkins was married at Templeton to Miss Amanda C. Larson, a native of Rysby, Sweden. She is one of three children, two of whom grew up, the other being Mrs. Paulson, of San Jose. She is a daughter of John Larson, a Swedish farmer, who located in Longmont, Col., and grew grain there until the grasshoppers destroyed all that he had.

In 1914, he died near Templeton, highly respected by his neighbors. Her mother, on the other hand, who was Christine Gunnerson of Sweden, in her maiden days, died forty years ago in Colorado. Mrs. Hawkins received her education in Colorado, and later came to the Pacific Coast. In his endeavor to set a high moral standard for the community in which he resides, Mr. Hawkins has the heartiest co-operation of his good wife. Three children, Clarence Edwin, Rudolph Ernest, and Carl Willard, brighten this happy home. A fourth child, Arthur, died at the age of five years. In political matters, Mr. Hawkins favors the principles of the Republican party. He is a member of the Lutheran Church.

**ALBERT JOHNSON.**—Albert Johnson, successful ranchman, prosperous partner in a threshing enterprise, and prominent citizen in his locality, is one of those California farmers who have had a varied experience, and who can do more than one thing and do it well. He was born in Minneapolis, on October 8, 1878, his father, Andrew Johnson, of Vermland, Sweden, having come to that bestirring western town. When he first reached the United States, Andrew Johnson was about twenty years of age. He began work as a stone mason and bricklayer, soon becoming a contractor.

In 1888, he located in California, near Templeton, where he bought some acreage from the West Coast Land Co., beginning with thirty acres in the Bethel district. He worked alternately at farming and at his trade, assisting to plaster the Lutheran Church, and he showed his skill by burning brick for his houses. He put up, in fact, numerous buildings in different parts of the county, and yet became more and more proficient in grain farming. Gradually, too, he bought more land, so that when he died, in 1910, at the age of sixty-six, he possessed quite two hundred fifty acres. He was a devout member of the Lutheran Church.

Andrew Johnson was twice married: On the first occasion, in Minnesota, he was joined to Miss Catherine Bergquist, who died at Minneapolis in 1884, and by whom he had six children. Three of these are still living: Albert, the subject of our sketch; Charles, a merchant of Templeton; and Joseph, who was born in Minneapolis in 1880, was educated in the Bethel school district, and since 1900 has been a partner with Albert. Andrew Johnson's second wife had been Miss Anna Ellen Pedersen, a native of Norway, who came to Minneapolis in 1886 and died in Bethel in 1895. She bore him five children, and three are living: Elvert and Henry, who are farming on the home place, and Anna Catherine, now Mrs. Alfred Lovgren, of Bethel.

Brought up in California from his ninth year, Albert attended the public school at Bethel, and helped his father until he was twenty-three years of age, when, with his brother Joseph, he commenced farming, renting a part of the present place. Having been rather successful in the raising of grain, they began to buy land in 1903, and now they own three different farms, comprising two hundred seventy acres two miles from Templeton; and there they have built a stone residence with material from their own quarries and a frame barn, and have a well one hundred twelve feet deep, with an engine installed near by. The family estate is still undivided, and Albert was the administrator of his father's property. In addition to their other possessions, they also own two lots in Thousand Oaks, Berkeley.

Some years ago Albert Johnson was married at Bethel to Miss Charlotte Emelia Erickson, a native of Red Wing, Minn., and by her he has had



children, Margaret Amelia and Paul Oscar Albert. All the family attend the Swedish Lutheran Church at Templeton, of which Albert Johnson is secretary to the board of trustees. In politics, Mr. Johnson aligns himself with the Republican party.

**GEORGE FRANCIS ROOT.**—To the permanent settlement of the West the citizenship of the East has made heavy contributions; and from the densely populated regions of the Atlantic Coast, settlers have been drawn to the promise and fertility of the Pacific Coast environments. Among these is George Francis Root, who came across the continent from Craftsbury, Vt., to California, and in this state, so remote from his early home, has spent the active years of his life. He was born in Craftsbury, Orleans county, Vt., March 2, 1861, a son of Moses and Mary (Blanchard) Root, the former born in Sunderland, Mass., and the latter in Vermont, both tracing their ancestry back to some of the early families of the New England states. The Root family goes back to two brothers who came from England and settled in Massachusetts in 1682, Elihu Root being a member of the same family and an own cousin of Moses Root, who moved to Vermont and settled on the Governor Crafts farm, farmed it for a time and later bought the same, continuing his operations there until his death. He made one trip to California and spent a season traveling about the state, and visited Yosemite valley, which pleased him very much. His wife died in Kern county. They had eight children. Of these, Edmund is located in Wasco, Kern county; Sidney is a member of the firm of Keniston & Root, one of the largest dealers in surgical instruments in Los Angeles; Luchia is now Mrs. Alston of Los Angeles; and George F. is the subject of this review.

George Francis Root, the fifth child in order of birth of the eight children, was raised on the home farm and was educated in the public schools and Craftsbury Academy, graduating in 1879. After that he followed farming on the home place until 1881, when he came to California and located in Los Gatos. Here he was employed as a horticulturist and vineyardist, and also learned the trade of miller in the Los Gatos Flouring Mills.

He and his brother Sidney both came to San Luis Obispo County in 1885 and located homesteads. George F. located six miles northeast of Paso Robles, near the old adobe, and built a residence, hauling the lumber from San Luis Obispo, to which place the grain had to be hauled in the early days of farming here, taking three days for the trip. The grain was cut with a header and cost fourteen cents per cental for threshing. He now has his combined harvester and does the work for less than half that amount, costing one dollar and a half to cut and thresh. One year, after he had cut his own crop, he cut for several of his neighbors, the cutting amounting to seventeen hundred dollars for one farmer alone. He used thirty-two horses for motive power. He uses two fourteen-horse plows, each with five ten-inch shares, cutting fifty inches; and he plows deep and well and summer-fallows every other year, his experience having taught him that that method pays better and insures a larger crop.

Mr. Root bought three hundred twenty acres adjoining his land, and the first year sold enough grain to pay for it, with a balance of four hundred dollars besides. At one time he owned 1,000 acres; but he sold part, retaining five hundred twenty-three acres in a body. In 1913 he moved into Paso Robles and erected a bungalow at the corner of Fifteenth and Vine streets;

and in 1916 he built his present fine two-story residence at Fifteenth and Chestnut streets, besides which he owns four other residences here and eighty-six lots, which he is selling. He is a stockholder in the States Consolidated Oil Co. of Los Angeles, and a stockholder in the Goodwill Mining Co., iron and copper, of which he is a director and one of the organizers, with Quest, Iversen and Ayres. He is also president of the board of education of Paso Robles, and during his term of office the new grammar school, costing \$43,000.00 was erected. He was trustee of the Estrella school district for years; and he has taken a very active part in many enterprises for the promotion of the county's welfare. He has been very successful in all his business dealings, and what he has accomplished has been through the exercise of good business judgment and fair dealing.

Mr. Root was married in Estrella to Miss Florence Edgar, who was born in Illinois and died on the home ranch. They had seven children—Glenn, operating the home ranch; Blanche, a graduate of the Los Angeles State Normal and teaching at Shandon; Ruth, Mrs. Stewart of Wasco; Mary, a graduate of the Manual Arts school in Los Angeles; and George, Carrie, and Frank. By his second marriage Mr. Root was united with Miss Mabel McCord, a native of New York state, to whom one son has been born, Sidney Root. Mr. Root is a member of the Methodist Church, and on its official board. In politics he is a Republican on national issues, but in local matters supports the men he considers best qualified to fill the positions, regardless of party lines.

**JOSEPH TIDROW.**—One of the pioneer ranchers of San Luis Obispo County in the vicinity of Paso Robles, and one who has seen the growth of this state during the past sixty-five years, is Joseph Tidrow, proprietor of Walnut Cove Ranch. He was born February 24, 1844, near Weaverville, Ind., a son of Joseph Tidrow, a native of Tennessee, who went to Ohio and there married Caroline Troutt, coming soon afterwards to Indiana and later to Keokuk, Ia., where they settled. In 1851 he outfitted for the trip across the plains to California, and with his wife and four children started on the long and dangerous journey. Their ox-teams traveled slowly and when they reached Salt Lake it was too late to proceed to California that winter. So they remained there until spring and then made the balance of the trip, arriving at El Monte, Los Angeles county, in the fall of 1852. There Mr. Tidrow bought a ranch and for a time engaged in farming; later he traded the wagon with which he had crossed the plains, for eighty acres of land, which he later sold for two hundred fifty dollars. He then bought land near Anaheim and farmed until his death. His wife died in Monterey county.

Joseph Tidrow was but six years old when the trip was made across the plains, but there are many incidents now fresh in his mind of happenings along the route that were impressed indelibly on his mind at the time. He attended a private school, and put in three months in the public school; and when sixteen he started out for himself working for wages on the various ranches in the vicinity of his home, and also driving a team. In 1863 he drove a freighting team of seven yoke of oxen to Owens river, Inyo county, and then went to Santa Cruz and worked in the redwoods, getting out posts and ties by contract, in which he was very successful, making as high as eight dollars a day. In October, 1864, he enlisted in Co. A, 8th California Volunteers, was mustered in at San Francisco, taken by boat to Washington ter-

ritory and stationed with his regiment at Cape Disappointment, where he remained until the summer of 1865, when he was honorably discharged at the close of the war.

Coming back to California, Mr. Tidrow stopped for a time in Los Angeles, then took his mother to Visalia, and bought a farm six miles east of town, where he engaged in ranching. There he was married, on May 9, 1869, to Miss Martha J. Gray, who was born in Shelby county, Texas, and who had come overland to California in 1863. She is a daughter of James and Mathilda (English) Gray, both natives of Texas, where her father was a cattle man. Her mother died in Texas in 1856. In 1863 her father came to California and located in Tulare county, where he farmed. He died in San Diego. Mrs. Tidrow was educated in the public schools of Tulare county. In 1873, suffering from chills and fever, although his wife was in good health, Mr. Tidrow moved to Salinas and there recovered; but his wife was taken ill and was under the care of physicians for a year. When the doctor had got all but one hundred fifty dollars of his money, Mr. Tidrow determined to change climate, and the following year came to Adelaida, in San Luis Obispo County. He located a place, but did not file on it; however, he built a house of shakes, having split them himself.

In the spring of 1875 he located on a place of one hundred sixty acres in Oak Flat, and built a frame house, hauling the lumber from San Luis Obispo. After operating the ranch for a time, he gave it up, as he found it was held in reserve for the railroad and could not be homesteaded. In 1877 he located on his present place of one hundred sixty acres, five miles from the city limits of Paso Robles. The land was covered with brush and one could not see fifty yards in any direction. He cleared the land, began making improvements, erected a small house, broke the land, built brush fences to keep out the sheep and cattle that roamed at will over the country, and has added improvements from time to time until he now has one of the best ranches in this section of the county.

Mrs. Tidrow regained her health; so he felt well repaid for his labors. He added fifty-five acres adjoining, and has devoted himself to building up a fine homestead. Mr. Tidrow bought one hundred thirty-eight acres near Templeton, on the Salinas river, which is operated by his son, Pleasant. One walnut tree on his ranch, thirty years old, yielded two hundred fifty pounds of nuts in 1916. In the early days eggs sold for eight and ten cents per dozen, and butter from fifteen to twenty cents per pound; and at that time he took his produce to Cayucos. He kept a dairy of twenty cows; and with the work he did outside, he obtained a start and came out successfully. In 1877 he worked near Bakersfield with a four-horse team for six dollars a day, and spent seven months there helping to build the Buena Vista canal.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tidrow nine children were born, eight of whom are now living, Ida having died at twenty-four years of age. Lillie is Mrs. Wright of San Jose; Pleasant lives on his father's ranch near Templeton; John is in Almond school district; Laura, Mrs. Palmer, is of Taft; Oliver is in McKittrick; Leonard lives in the Almond school district; Ora, Mrs. Baker, is in McKittrick; and Lena is Mrs. Russell Morgan of McKittrick. Mr. Tidrow has served as trustee of the Oak Flat school district many years, has been road master of District 10 for the past eight years and had built many

Before he was made road master. In politics

Mr. Tidrow supports Democratic candidates on national issues. He is a Mason, a member of Paso Robles Lodge, No. 286, and is a member and Past Grand in the Odd Fellows, and a member of the Encampment and a past officer and also a member of the Rebekahs. He is truly a self-made man.

**C. A. CHRISTENSEN.**—One of the rising young men of the county, and one proud to be known as a native son, is C. A. Christensen, proprietor of the Spring City Dairy. He was born in Vineyard cañon, Monterey county, September 28, 1892, a son of Abraham Christensen, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Young Christensen was reared on the ranch in Monterey county until ten years of age, when he came with his parents to San Luis Obispo County and settled opposite Paso Robles, on a ranch devoted to farming and the dairy business. He attended the public school, and after completing the grammar school helped his father on the ranch.

In March, 1915, in partnership with J. C. Lawrence, he started the Spring City Dairy. They bought cows, and started a milk route in June, the two continuing together until August 1, 1916, when Mr. Christensen bought his partner's interest and now manages the business alone.

He has twenty acres in alfalfa, with a flowing well to supply water for irrigating, and thirty high-grade cows in his herd. His dairy is well equipped with modern means for caring for milk, and is sanitary in every detail. By persistence and close application to his work, Mr. Christensen is making a success of his venture.

**CHARLES S. KINNEY.**—As might be expected of one who has spent his entire life in California, Mr. Kinney is a patriotic son of the Golden State and ardently champions all measures looking toward the development of the commonwealth. His father, Samuel James Kinney, was born in Toronto, Canada, of Scotch descent, and married Eliza Martin, a native of Ohio. He was a railroad engineer in Ohio, and there he enlisted for service in the Civil War, but was rejected because the condition of his teeth would not permit him to bite off the cartridge. He crossed the plains in the sixties with horse teams and settled in San Luis Obispo, where he followed farming for a time; then he went to Santa Rosa and was employed as engineer for a number of years until, in 1874, he was accidentally killed while making an examination of a bridge, falling through to the bottom. His widow is still alive and resides at Arroyo Grande.

The youngest of eight children born to his parents, Charles S. Kinney first saw the light of day on February 22, 1870, in San Luis Obispo. He attended the public schools there, but at an early age had to go to work to help support the family. At the age of twelve, he was apprenticed to learn the plumber's trade in Hanford; and completing it in three years, he went to Visalia, and thence to Los Angeles, working at the trade.

Finally he arrived in Arroyo Grande and later established a plumbing and hardware business, which he ran for fifteen years, meeting with success and building up a large trade. One year was spent in business in San Luis Obispo, and in 1908 he came to Paso Robles to take charge of the plumbing department of Bell's Department Store, which business he has seen develop to large proportions during the past eight years.

Mr. Kinney was married in Arroyo Grande to Miss Evangeline Brock, a native daughter of Santa Barbara county, born in Santa Maria. They are parents of four children: Edith, Hazel, a student in the normal school at

son, Arthur and Florine. Mrs. Kinney is a member of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Kinney is a Socialist in political belief. He is a true type of the native sons of the West, and is a supporter of all movements that will advance the interest of the county.

**MARTIN HOLZINGER.**—Not a few of the personal associations connecting America and Germany join the duchy of Baden with some American state, as in the case of Martin Holzinger, until lately an esteemed California pioneer. He was born in Baden, August 17, 1842, a son of George Holzinger, a farmer, who brought his family to the United States and settled in Yorktown, Bureau county, Ill., where he died. Martin attended the public schools of that county, after which he began farming; and on May 5, 1870, he was married to Miss Magdalena Mathis, who was born near Selesta, Alsace.

Her father, John Mathis, was a farmer who had a large country residence with beautiful and fine gardens of fruits and flowers at Selesta. The residence was the largest in that vicinity, with many spacious, sunny rooms. The father naturally improved his large American farm, when he became owner of one, and he brought his wife and ten children to this country to enjoy its opportunities. The mother of Mrs. Holzinger was Magdalena Laufensberger, a native of Gerstheim, Alsace, who eventually visited California and died at Newkirk, Okla., while on a visit to one of her sons. Her brother, Christian Laufensberger, was mayor of Gerstheim for about forty years, and his son Edward is now holding the same office.

The children of the Mathis family are: John, in Nebraska; Ernestina, now Mrs. John Ernst of San Luis Obispo; Amelia, Mrs. William Ernst of Geneseo; Jacob, Mary and Eugene, who are living near the old home in Illinois; Albert, who resides in Idaho; Emil, living at Apache, Okla.; and Minna, Mrs. Burton, who is also living in Illinois. Magdalena Mathis received her education in both German and French, and was reared in the beautiful country about Selesta. She came to America with her parents, and studied the English language until she became as proficient in it as in the other two.

After his marriage, Martin Holzinger settled down to farming in Illinois; but in December, 1885, he came to California and located at Geneseo on the ranch his widow now owns, taking up a hundred acres on the Shandon road eleven miles from Paso Robles. It was necessary to bring all supplies from San Luis Obispo. Mr. Holzinger was a hustler and ambitious, and he soon built for himself a frame house. He also set out an orchard of apples, pears, prunes and almonds, and waited for what he expected was to be a bountiful harvest. They had a splendid orchard, which bore well; but he could find no market for the product, and so he grubbed out the trees and continued raising grain, also leasing considerable lands adjoining. He had some twelve hundred acres in wheat. As he prospered, he erected a more commodious house for his family.

On July 10, 1900, Mr. Holzinger passed to his reward after a useful career, since which time Mrs. Holzinger has managed the ranch, taking that sensible interest she has always manifested. Four children are living: Edward, a merchant at Creston; Albert, farming in the vicinity of the old home; and Amelia and Alvin, who are with their mother.

Long associated with the Lutheran Church at Geneseo, Mrs. Holzinger has made her influence felt for good. In political affiliation, the family are Republicans. Mrs. Holzinger is a cultured and refined woman, with a taste



*Mrs. Magdalena Holzinger*



for the beautiful which finds expression in her garden and in the ornamental fruit and shade trees, as well as shrubbery and flowers, that beautify her attractive home.

**HENRY BASCOM TOLLE.**—Whatever of success has come into the life of Henry Bascome Tolle, a prominent citizen of Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County, has been the result entirely of his own efforts, as he was early thrown upon his own resources with nothing but courage and industry to presage the worth of his future. He was born at Glasgow, Ky., February 5, 1842, a son of Samuel and a grandson of William Tolle. William Tolle was of English ancestry, a planter of Virginia, whence he came to Barron county, Ky., where he died. He did not believe in slavery and therefore kept no slaves. Samuel Tolle was born near Lynchburg, Va., followed farming in Kentucky, was an old-line Whig, did not believe in slavery, and was a prominent member of the Methodist Church and a class leader for years. He died in Kentucky. His wife, Mary Ann Snoddy, was born in Virginia, a daughter of Daniel Snoddy, who was a native of the north of Ireland and settled in Kentucky in an early day. Mrs. Tolle died in Kentucky.

Henry Bascome Tolle was the sixth child in a family of twelve children, nine of whom grew to maturity and three of whom are living. He was brought up on the home farm, attended the district schools and at the age of nineteen and one-half years enlisted in the 9th Kentucky Infantry, Co. E., in September, 1861. He was mustered into the service at Columbia, Ky., and was made sergeant. With his regiment he participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville, Ky., Murfreesboro, Chattanooga, Chickamauga, and Missionary Ridge, and was then sent to Knoxville on the double quick to relieve Burnside, after which he served in the Georgia campaign and in the battles of Peach Tree creek and Marietta, Atlanta, Jonesboro, Ga., and numerous skirmishes. He had some very narrow escapes, having several bullets pierce his hat and graze his clothes, and nothing but the providence of God saved his life, for which he has always been thankful. He returned to Louisville, where he was mustered out in December, 1864. Two of his brothers, Joel L. and Peter, enlisted in the same company with our subject for service in the Civil War, but were captured while en route to be mustered in, and were kept at Nashville, and then at Atlanta, where Peter died. Joel returned home. Mr. Tolle removed to Taylorsville, Ind., and, in 1866, to McPherson county, Kan., and was the first settler to locate in that county. He took up a homestead of one hundred sixty acres in Gypsum Creek township, and built a log house and stable.

Then he returned to Kentucky, and on October 9, 1867, was married in Glasgow to Miss Sarah Frances Snoddy, who was born there, a daughter of William and Eliza Snoddy, the fourth of nine children in their family. She had one brother, Christopher, in the Civil War as a member of Co. F, 21st Kentucky Volunteers. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Tolle settled on his farm in Kansas, where he broke the land and was successfully engaged in farming many years, with the exception of two, when his crops were completely eaten up by grasshoppers. His farm was bottom land, and he raised fine crops of wheat and corn, and some stock. In 1887, he sold out and came to California and for a time lived in Watsonville and was engaged in horticulture, setting out an orchard in the Pajaro valley. In 1890, he sold it and came to Paso Robles and engaged in carpentering and building, continuing in the trade



in many years, both building and selling places of his own. He still owns three residences in the town. In 1898 he erected his present two-story brick residence on Fourteenth and Chestnut streets, where he is living in the quiet enjoyment of his well-earned rest. He retired from active work in 1911.

Mr. and Mrs. Tolle are members of the Methodist Church; and for years he was a class leader, trustee and steward, as well as superintendent of the Sunday School. Mr. and Mrs. Tolle have been consistent Christians; he was converted at the age of eleven in the church in his home section, and she as a girl of seven in her father's home. In Kansas the neighbors in their locality organized a congregation and held services in a schoolhouse for a time, until Mr. Tolle and his wife deeded a parcel of land on one side of their farm to the congregation and built a church with their own means, where services are now held. For many years Mr. Tolle supported Republican principles, but of later years has been independent, supporting the best men and measures. He and his wife have a wide circle of friends and are highly esteemed by all who know them.

**HENRY F. SCHROEDER.**—It really makes a good deal of difference as to the successful direction of civic organizations in a town, and particularly in such a home-place as Paso Robles, whether the leaders selected are men and women of personal magnetism and at least a moderate degree of popularity; and this is demonstrated in the life and activities of Henry F. Schroeder, the sturdy, straightforward business man, who has given his influence to forwarding the interests of Paso Robles, and has never been found wanting in local movements where intelligent co-operation, hard work and even self-denying effort have been required.

A native of Elkader, Clayton county, Ia., where he was born on August 24, 1861, Henry was the son of Louis Schroeder, a native of Mecklenburg, in Schwerin, Germany, and came, in the early forties, as a pioneer to Iowa. There he located on the frontier, and being a merchant tailor he soon opened a tailoring and general merchandise business in Elkader, prospering so well that he was able to retire and remove to La Crosse, Wis., where he ended his days. His mother was Louise Meder, also a native of Germany, and she also died at La Crosse. Of six children born to the Schroeders, five are still living, among whom Henry was the fourth eldest.

The usual course at the public schools preceded his employment, begun in 1882, in the grain warehouse at Whitehall, Wis.; after which, the following year, he became manager of the warehouse for W. W. Cargill, with whom he remained eight years, representing him at various points in Wisconsin, Minnesota and South Dakota.

In October, 1901, Henry Schroeder came to the Pacific Coast, almost immediately locating in the town of San Luis Obispo, from which, ten months later, he moved to Paso Robles. Here he entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Milling Co. as shifting foreman of the lumber department, a position he has since held with great success. Now successful he has been, his many acquaintances, particularly those in the Salinas valley and all the way from the Santa Lucia mountains to the San Joaquin county, can attest. Kind, and of a winning personality, able to lead while others follow, Mr. Schroeder has the confidence of his company and the employees, as well as of the public with its

On November 2, 1884, Mr. Schroeder married Miss Jessie Sherwood at Whitehall, Wis., a lady who was a social favorite in her community in that state, being well-known there as the daughter of Joseph and Alice (Safford) Sherwood, natives respectively of Syracuse, N. Y., and Lynn, Mass. Her grandfather Sherwood came from an old New York state family that originally owned a part of the present site of Syracuse. Her father was born in 1835, was reared a farmer, and twenty years later removed to Springfield, Jackson county, eventually settling at Whitehall, Trempealeau county, Wis. Her mother came to that state when she was sixteen years old. The grandfather, Robert Safford, was a physician as well as a sea captain, sailing from Boston to Liverpool for many years, and during this time he was a partner of Howe in the manufacture of the Howe sewing machine, and was also interested in shoe manufacturing. However, he quit the sea and moved westward, locating in Wisconsin when the country was a wilderness. He was married to Miss Louise Boston, an own cousin of the great evangelist, Dwight L. Moody. In the Sherwood family there were two sons and four daughters; and one son and three daughters are still living, Mrs. Schroeder being the third eldest. She received her education in the public schools at Whitehall and in the Black River Falls high school.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Schroeder. Lester, a photographer, resides in Paso Robles and spends his summers in the Yosemite Valley, his photographs of that famous region being reproduced in the popular magazines. Elmore, a graduate of the University of California, from which he has the degree of Ph. G., is a druggist in Redlands. Pearl Marie, a graduate of the Paso Robles high school, who afterwards took a course in the University of California, has distinguished herself as a musician and vocalist, and is a lady who, with exceptional generosity, often favors the community in which she lives with an exhibition of her talent, contributing in particular to the programs of the church which she attends.

The family are active members of the Methodist Church, Mr. Schroeder being one of the board of trustees. A director of the Chamber of Commerce, of Republican affiliations, he is also interested in popular education. At the same time he is a well-known figure among the Knights of Pythias. He is president of the Paso Robles Athletic Club. Mrs. Schroeder also participates in civic activities as a member of the Women's Club, and of other societies.

**ALBERT CRUM.**—A veteran of the Civil War, a prominent contractor and builder in various parts of the country, a business man in San Luis Obispo County, where he settled at Templeton in 1886 and is now living practically retired from active pursuits, Albert Crum looks back on a life well spent and to the future without fear, for he has lived by the golden rule throughout his life. Albert Crum was born in Haverstraw, on the Hudson, N. Y., on February 10, 1843, a son of Jacob Crum, likewise born there on February 18, 1819, and grandson of John Crum, one of the early representatives of the name in Haverstraw, who was also born in that place, of Scotch ancestry. The name was originally Krome, in Scotland, and was afterwards changed to Crum, as it was pronounced that way. Grandfather John Crum's mother was born in Germany. Jacob was a carpenter and builder. He worked on the old Astor House in New York, and later went to Yonkers and followed building until 1857, when he removed to Adams county, Ill.,

with his father, and in Houston township, near Quincy, bought one hundred sixty acres of land with a land warrant, located on it, and improved a home and died there. After his death, his widow was married a second time, to a Mr. Shamon. She died in Illinois on September 3, 1902. Of her eight children five are living, Albert being the second in order of birth. His oldest brother, Phillip, served in the 76th Reg. Ill. Vol. Inf., and is now deceased. Samuel served in the 84th Reg. Ill. Vol. Inf. and is now a resident of Centralia, Wash.; Mathilda, born on August 9, 1846, became the wife of R. M. O'Dell of Haines, Alaska, where he is judge of the U. S. court; Jacob, born on November 12, 1848, died in Illinois; Maria, born on August 28, 1850, died in Mendon, Ill.; Esther, born May 14, 1853, resides in Oklahoma; and Henry, born December 27, 1854, lives in Lindsay, California.

Albert Crum was reared in the state of New York and attended the public schools of Yonkers until he was fourteen, when he went to Illinois. He there attended school, worked on the farm, learned the trade of carpenter with his father and worked with him for some time. On November 16, 1861, at the age of seventeen, he enlisted in Co. B, 50th Reg. Ill. Vol. Inf., for service in the Civil War. Mustered in at Chillicothe, Mo., he was sent with his command down the Mississippi, to Cairo and Paducah, Ky. He was at the capture of Fort Henry, and participated in the Battles of Ft. Donelson, second Corinth, Shiloh, Resaca, and Altoona Heights. He was also one who made the "March to the Sea," later taking part in the battle of Bentonville and the capture of Savannah. He was mustered out at Louisville, Ky., on July 19, 1865. Mr. Crum veteranized at Linnville, Tenn. After being mustered out, he returned to Illinois and in 1866 went to Minneapolis and followed carpentering, being next employed in railroad work in Jefferson, Tex., and on the Kansas Pacific Railroad through Kansas, and thence down into New Mexico; still later he was with the Union Pacific as a carpenter until the road was completed to Promontory, and was building a depot at Ogden when the golden spike was driven in 1869. From Ogden, Mr. Crum went to work for the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad and helped to build the first bridge on that line until Colorado Springs was reached, when work was suspended. In 1871 he came to California, remained a short time and then went to Portland, proceeding from there to The Dalles in the employ of the Oregon Railroad and Navigation Co., and helping to construct the steamers "R. R. Thompson" and "Spokane."

His next employment was as a merchant at The Dalles, where he continued for six years. He again came to California in 1886. He located in Templeton when the town was just laid out, bought block 15, built a store which he leased to Goldtree, and followed the building business until Goldtree sold out. Then he started in business in his own building vacated by Goldtree, and for six years was successfully engaged in the general merchandise business until selling out to George F. Bell. He has since lived retired from all business cares, and in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest.

Mr. Crum was married on July 19, 1888, to Miss Eunice P. Wright, a native of Santa Cruz and daughter of Elisha and Louisa (Hanks) Wright, natives of South Carolina and Alabama. Mr. Wright crossed the plains in 1852, farmed in Santa Cruz county, and later in San Benito county, and died in Hollister, as did also his wife. Of their eight children, seven are living, Mrs. Crum being the sixth in order of birth. The children born to Mr. and





*M. C. Acebedo*

Mrs. Crum are Cora, a nurse in Los Angeles; Albert, in Oakland; Charles, of Chicago; Ralph, of Oakland; and Phillip, in Hollister. Mr. Crum is independent in politics and has served as school trustee for years very efficiently. Both he and his wife are highly esteemed for their high principles of honor and strict integrity, and have many friends throughout the county.

**MANUEL C. ACEBEDO.**—A man who is a successful and quite extensive cattle man, as well as a native son of California of whom any community might well be proud, Manuel C. Acebedo was born in the city of Monterey, March 3, 1869. His father, Thomas Acebedo, was one of the Argonauts who came to California in 1849 from his native land, Mexico; and he located in Monterey county, where he engaged in the stock business until his death. His wife was formerly Mary Torres, a native of Spain who came with her parents to California in 1849, and she also died in Monterey county.

Manuel was the sixth of twelve children in order of birth. He attended the public schools of the county and assisted his father on the ranch with the stock, working with a desire to learn all he could along those lines. He early learned to ride a horse, to throw the lasso, and to brand cattle, and became a good judge of stock as to quality and value. As soon as he was twenty-one, he embarked in the stock business on his own account, purchasing thirty-two head of cows at fifteen dollars per head; and with these as a beginning, he has risen gradually to the position he holds today.

He leased range land in Kings county, and in due time bought the old Lowell ranch of one hundred sixty acres on the edge of that county; and this was the nucleus of his present large holdings. He branched out and increased his herd as rapidly as he could, establishing his brand, AC, the C underneath and connected with the A. He added to his land as he prospered, and now owns about twenty-five hundred acres in a body, extending a distance of five miles in length in Kings and Monterey counties. The land is adapted for the stock business, as it is well watered by springs and creeks. He is partial to the shorthorn Durhams, of which he makes a specialty.

In connection with his own ranch he leases and controls twelve thousand acres whereon roam his herds, which number from five hundred to one thousand head. Since 1905 he has been engaged as a cattle dealer, purchasing cattle and shipping them by carloads to his ranch from Mexico, Arizona and Nevada, buying them wherever he can find them at the right prices. As fast as the cattle are brought to good condition, he makes his sales from the ranch to the market, and has become one of the well-known and responsible stockmen of the coast section of the state.

It was at Traver, Tulare county, June 28, 1906, that the marriage uniting Mr. Acebedo with Miss Helen Wood, a native of Estrella, San Luis Obispo County, and a daughter of George W. Wood, was celebrated. Mr. Wood was born in Connecticut, and is a graduate of Wesleyan University of that state, where he taught school until coming to California, in 1888. Here, also, he has been engaged in educational work in San Luis Obispo County, part of the time as assistant superintendent of schools, and in various places in the state as a teacher, being now employed in that calling in Merced county. He married Jean Kerr, a native of Pittsburg, Pa., who is a graduate nurse and is matron of the Hanford Sanitarium of Hanford, Cal. Mrs. Acebedo was educated in the grammar and high schools, and is a woman of broad information. Two children have been born to them, Narciso and Romeo.

In 1913 Mr. Acebedo purchased his residence convenient to Shandon, where he and his family reside in order to secure good school advantages for his boys, while he superintends his large stock interests. In political matters he supports men and measures of the Republican party; and to keep abreast of the times and his chosen calling he is a member of the California State Cattle Growers' Association.

**PERCY JENNINGS MARGETTS.**—A representative of an old family and himself born in California, on San Lorenzo creek, San Benito county, on the Monterey county line, Percy J. Margetts is a son of Charles U. Margetts, who was born in 1848, in Northamptonshire, England, and when twenty-seven years old landed at New York, and after a few days in the metropolis came to the "Far West." He settled near Hollister, in San Benito county, and there he worked as a sheep-herder for about nineteen months, to learn the business which was so profitable at that period. He then formed a partnership with his brother-in-law, R. J. Rogers, under the firm name of Rogers & Margetts, and starting on a small scale, buying and raising sheep, became in time one of the most extensive sheep-raisers in Monterey county.

From 1876 until 1882 Mr. Margetts gave his entire time and attention to the business as superintendent; and when the partnership was dissolved, in 1882, Mr. Margetts went to the Carissa plains in San Luis Obispo County and here also became a large sheep-raiser, both buying a ranch and leasing some twenty-five hundred acres. Thus he continued the business until 1894, when he moved his family to Templeton and located them at what he named the Nine Oaks Ranch, so called on account of nine oak trees growing from one old stump. Here Mr. Margetts purchased some land and also became interested in the Templeton Milling Company as a stockholder when the mill was being erected, and afterwards became president and manager of the concern. He was also interested in the maintenance of good schools and served as one of the members of the school board of Templeton for some time. He was prominent in the lodge of Odd Fellows, is a Republican, and a very well known man in San Luis Obispo County.

He was twice married. On the first occasion, in 1881, he was united with Miss Eleanor H. Jennings, a native of York, England, who died August 23, 1897, at Templeton, leaving four children—Amy, Mrs. Tucker of Shandon; Percy, the subject of this review; Frances, Mrs. Cliff Bickell of Paso Robles; and Ethel, Mrs. Wilbur Clark of Maricopa. In 1899 Mr. Margetts was married the second time, this union being with Mrs. Josephine Matthews, who already had one son, Walter Matthews. Mr. Margetts is now living at Shandon, where he is serving as postmaster and is also engaged in the real estate and insurance business.

Percy J. Margetts, born May 2, 1884, was educated in the public schools of Templeton and raised in the live stock business from a lad, in which line he has continued his interest up to the present time, while he is also engaged in teaming. In 1912 he was appointed roadmaster of District Number Twelve under Supervisor Black, and still maintains that position, having about one hundred miles of road to care for. He is a trustee of the Templeton school district.

On October 7, 1909, in Santa Barbara, occurred the marriage of Percy J. Margetts with Miss Elora Yancy, who was born in Red Bluff, Cal., a daughter of Oliver Yancy, a native of Illinois, who came across the plains

to California and settled in Tehama county; and at Red Bluff he engaged in the mercantile business and was for some time a traveling salesman. He is now engaged in business in Chico. He was married in Colusa county to Miss Bettie Cravens, a native of Missouri, and they had six children—Myrtle, Mrs. Weeks of Red Bluff; Kate, Mrs. Edwards of Sacramento; Elora, Mrs. Margetts; Chester, in Shasta county; Glenia and Neva, both teachers in San Luis Obispo County. Mrs. Margetts attended the public schools and graduated from the high school in Red Bluff in 1900, and later from the San Jose Normal in 1902. She taught in Tehama county two years and in 1904 came to Templeton and taught four years, and is now teaching at Oak Flat.

Mr. and Mrs. Margetts have three children—Kathryn Frances, Percy Jennings, Jr., and Don Usher. Both Mr. and Mrs. Margetts are active members of the Presbyterian Church, and both are musically inclined, thereby becoming popular in the social circles of Templeton and vicinity.

**LEONARD LAW BILTON.**—The life of Leonard Law Bilton has been one of activity along various lines of business and he is an authority on values and conditions of lands throughout this section of San Luis Obispo County. A native of England, he was born on the channel at Portsmouth, January 30, 1855, a son of George and a grandson of William Bilton. The former, likewise a native of England, was a dealer in oils and colors, and died in London from the effects of a fall from a wagon. Grandfather Bilton was born in Yorkshire, was mayor of Portsmouth, and later served as Chamberlain of the borough, and was a successful business man, a dealer in oils and colors. Great-grandfather Stenth and his four sons served in the English navy with distinction and honor. George Bilton married Eliza Law, daughter of George Law, who was an auctioneer in Portsmouth, and was a member of the council there. While attending a launching, he was run into by a butcher-boy carrying a tray, a handle of which punctured an eye, and he was made blind in that eye.

Leonard L. Bilton grew to boyhood in Portsmouth, and at the age of ten went to Southampton and stayed eight months, and then attended the pay schools in Woolwich until the age of seventeen. Then he was apprenticed to learn the dry goods trade at Dartford, his term being four years; but after he had been in the store two years, his employer died. Young Bilton then worked up in different stores until he entered the employ of William Whitely, the Universal Provider in London, a place employing from four to five thousand people, he being one of twelve employees in the furniture department. In 1882, he resigned, with excellent recommendations, and came to Texas; and at Taylor he engaged in carpentering, building and selling houses, meeting with success there until 1888, when he came to California.

After spending three weeks in San Francisco, he settled in Paso Robles and with his wife and four children located on a homestead four miles east of Santa Margarita, and erected a house and improved the property for cultivation. Soon after that he moved into the town of Paso Robles, in order that his children might have better educational facilities, retaining the ranch and doing contracting and building in the town. In 1895, Mr. Bilton became millwright for the Sperry Flour Co., remaining with them several years, at various times doing work in Salinas at their mill there. In 1905, he bought the almond ranch of twenty-two acres on the Mountain Spring road, called



Scenic Drive. He killed squirrels by the thousands. He operated the ranch with success, setting the balance of fifteen acres to almonds. He also had three acres of orchard and vines, which do well in this section. The residence was erected under the live oaks that abound on the place, which Mr. Bilton named the Rill Ranch. He paid five hundred dollars for it at time of purchase, and in 1916 sold it for \$6,000. Besides the profit in money, the ten years' experience gave him a wonderful knowledge of the almond industry and makes him an authority on the subject. He gave the development of the ranch all of his time and made a study of soil conditions as well as of the care needed for the trees and vines on the place.

In Bishopsgate Church, London, England, occurred the marriage of Leonard Law Bilton with Miss Mary Gray, the ceremony being performed by the curate, Rev. Rogers. Mrs. Bilton was born at Bishopsgate, a daughter of John and Slaney (Richards) Gray. Of this union seven children have been born, three of them in California. Herbert, when seventeen years of age, was accidentally killed by a Southern Pacific train at Paso Robles; Percy is buyer for Brown Bros. Hardware Co., in San Francisco; Estella is an employee of the Paso Robles Record; Ada, a twin sister of Estella, is a graduate of the State Normal at San Jose and teaches near Santa Margarita; Mable is a graduate of the high school at Paso Robles and is serving as assistant postmaster; Leonard, a high school graduate, is proprietor of a billiard hall; and Nettie, also a graduate from the Paso Robles high school, is a musician in piano and voice, and is also with the Record. In political matters Mr. Bilton is a Socialist.

**CLARK SHERWOOD SMITH.**—One of the leading business men of Paso Robles is Clark S. Smith. He was born in Lee county, Ill., June 22, 1871, a son of Henry B. Smith (whose sketch is given elsewhere in this work), and was reared and educated in the schools at Walnut, Ill. When fourteen years old he accompanied his parents to California. They settled in San Luis Obispo County, and he finished the grammar school at Creston. At the age of nineteen, he went to Oakland and for three years was employed in the hardware store of C. B. Rice on Thirteenth avenue, East Oakland. Later he came to Paso Robles, and to Cambria, where he had a repair shop.

In 1894, he started the nucleus of his present large enterprise on Spring street, moving later to more commodious quarters on Park street, and in 1896 to his present location on Park street near Twelfth. He made a specialty at first of repairing guns and bicycles, later putting in a stock of guns for renting and a stock of sporting goods; and has increased his stock from year to year as occasion demanded. He handles a full line of fishing tackle and rents bicycles, and has a warehouse for storage of surplus goods. He also owns a twenty-three acre ranch adjoining his father's place one mile northwest from town.

The following article, which appeared in the Sporting Goods Dealer of St. Louis, and was reprinted in several magazines in the East, especially in Chicago and Duluth, will show the development of business that has occupied the attention of Mr. Smith for more than twenty years in Paso Robles:

"Away out in Paso Robles, Cal., C. S. Smith is conducting a sporting goods business on a large scale. Paso Robles isn't the largest town in California, neither is Smith's store the largest sporting goods store in California, but you can wager your chances of escaping the yarm hereafter that Smith

is doing a greater volume of business, population considered, than any other sporting goods dealer in the state.

"He buys Red P ammunition in lots that would stagger some of the big fellows, and some might doubt this if we didn't have the evidence.

"This business was established more than twenty years ago, and Smith has been hammering away ever since. He doesn't let up a minute. He has built up a wonderful trade in ammunition by giving the sportsmen what they want. He thinks first of satisfying his customer. If they have any pet loads they can't find anywhere else, they know Smith will have them. It is not uncommon for orders to travel two hundred or three hundred miles to this store for ammunition.

"But ammunition isn't all that is sold in this store. There is a full line of sporting goods. Smith's gun department would make that of many a dealer in large cities look puny and shrivel up in comparison, because it is 'some department.'

"How does he do such a big business in such a small town? Ask Smith and he will tell you his success is due to the fact that he makes every effort to please his customers, and says the profits will take care of themselves.

"When C. S. Smith first opened a sporting goods store in Paso Robles he found it necessary to have his Peters ammunition shipped direct from the factory in Cincinnati. In those days there were no wholesale stocks on the coast. Before handling factory shells 'Quick Shot' empties were rushed from Cincinnati, and Smith, using a hand-loading outfit, did much of the work of loading himself. Many sportsmen loaded their own shells, but later hand loading was discontinued save for the few who could not find what they wanted in a loaded shell, and the factory-made shells were stocked.

"The business has grown like a mushroom, and prosperity has been Smith's. When Smith started in business it wasn't a cut and dry proposition. He knew that much game was to be found in that section, and he immediately started a campaign for the business of the hunters. He taught them that Peters shells were superior to all others and today it is said that more game is killed with Peters shells in the vicinity of Paso Robles than is killed by all other brands of shells combined.

"A study of the interior of the Smith store will readily convince you that he is a firm believer in the helps sent out by the manufacturers. It is evident that he doesn't throw them under the counter or into the waste basket. The hangers are put out where they can be seen.

"The interior view of the store shows its owner. A careful examination will show that he is doing something with his right index finger. Friends who have examined the picture say he is giving a pointer on the kind of ammunition to buy and where to use it. The Smith store is clean and orderly—every corner of it. It isn't that way only when it poses for a picture, but is in trim all the time.

"In addition to playing to the fancy of the hunter the Smith store has a fishing tackle department that is good to look upon. There is nothing in the tackle line that cannot be found in the Smith store."

C. S. Smith was married in Paso Robles to Miss Olive Wright, a native of Santa Clara county, a daughter of H. G. Wright, editor of *The Leader*, and they are the parents of five children: Harry, who died at the age of ten, and Rosabelle, Maude, Meredith, and Clark M.

Mr. Smith is a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. Elks, and of Santa Lucia Lodge No. 350, I. O. O. F., in which he served as Noble Grand in 1899, and of which he has been treasurer for fourteen years. He is a member and Past Chief Patriarch of the Encampment, of which he has been treasurer for fourteen years; and both he and his wife are members of the Rebekahs, and of the Fraternal Brotherhood. He is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias and is president of the I. O. O. F. Hall Association and Cemetery Association.

Mr. Smith is a Republican and a charter member of the Chamber of Commerce. He is also deputy fish and game commissioner. Both Mr. and Mrs. Smith are members of the Methodist Church, of which he was a trustee for ten years, and is now a member of the official board.

**BENJAMIN REED SMITH.**—A life full of adventure and travel has been the lot of B. R. Smith, the well-known liveryman of Paso Robles. Born in Dellsboro, Dearborn county, Ind., the third child in a family of six born to Ralph and Sarah (Reed) Smith, Mr. Smith spent his boyhood days on the home farm, receiving his education in the public schools of that vicinity. His mother was a native of Maryland; and his father was born in Dearborn county, Indiana.

When twenty-one years of age he decided to see other parts of the country, and went to Missouri and from there to Iowa. After about a year in those states, he returned to Indiana and, after a short stay there, went to Kansas and began riding the cattle ranges, whence he drifted into Texas and drove cattle over Chisholm trail, and the Wichita and Dodge City trail, through the Panhandle country, for about three years, meeting with many adventures.

His next move was to New Mexico, where he took up freighting and drove a ten-mule team out of Santa Fe to Fort Wingate, continuing this hard and dangerous employment for three years. The Indians, Apaches and Cheyennes, were a danger always to be reckoned with in those days, especially in that locality, and in one encounter they captured some of the mules, but Mr. Smith and his men escaped.

After completing their work in New Mexico, he next went to Denver, Colo., with the outfit and was employed on the Denver and New Orleans Railway, serving as foreman of grading and construction work for one year. From there he went to Kansas City, where occurred his marriage with Miss Alice L. Smith, a native of Ripley county, Ind., but who was reared near Kansas City. They came to Glendora, Cal., in February, 1882, where Mr. Smith engaged in ranching one year. He then went to Riverside and took up horticulture and alfalfa-raising, and bought different properties, which he improved and later sold. He also was interested in the cattle business, shipping cattle from Arizona to Riverside and Los Angeles. In 1904 he located in Los Angeles, in which city he was occupied in the real estate business and in trading stock.

Coming to Paso Robles in 1912, Mr. Smith purchased the livery stable he now conducts, his many years of experience in handling horses and cattle fitting him for the business and making for success. He runs a feed and sale stable, and buys and sells horses, as well as breaking them.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Smith four children have been born: Lottie, residing in Sacramento; Ralph, residing in Los Angeles; and Grace and Ethel, living at home. Mr. Smith has been a member of the Independent





Mr & Mrs Jesse T. Ratherford

Order of Odd Fellows and Encampment since twenty-one years of age. He is also a member of the Knights of the Maccabees. In politics he is a Republican.

**JESSE T. RUTHERFORD.** A native son of California, the late Jesse T. Rutherford was born in Watsonville, September 22, 1866, a son of Aaron and Mary (Cook) Rutherford. The father crossed the plains in an early day from his native state, Missouri, and became interested in farming, locating at first near San Jose, then at Watsonville, and later at Avila, San Luis Obispo County. He sold out some years later and moved to Fresno, where he passed the remainder of his life. Mrs. Rutherford was also a native of Missouri and is now living in Fresno.

Jesse T. Rutherford was the fourth child in a family of nine, and was reared principally in San Luis Obispo County, attending the schools of the Avila section. He learned the trade of machinist and engineer, and was employed principally in the latter capacity for different companies along the coast until his marriage on December 24, 1901, to Miss Mollie Jones, a native of Berryville, Ark., and a daughter of James L. and Catherine E. (Smith) Jones, natives of Missouri and Tennessee respectively, the ceremony taking place near Shandon.

At the time of the discovery of gold in California the Jones family came across the plains with ox-teams, and in the same train was the late Mrs. Tennessee Andrews of San Luis Obispo. Two years later they returned to Arkansas, where Mr. Jones farmed until 1873, when he once more brought his family to this state and for a time settled at Cambria. Soon afterwards he located in the Adelaida section, and later homesteaded in McMillan's cañon. Having improved his place, he sold it, to buy a tract on the Cholame near Shandon, where he lived until he retired, his last days being spent with his daughter. When he died he was sixty-six years old.

Mrs. Rutherford was the third child in a family of five and was educated in the public schools. After her marriage with her husband, they spent several years in the San Joaquin valley, and on their return to Shandon they began ranching. Mrs. Rutherford had pre-empted eighty acres in the Eagle district, which she kept until 1916, when she sold it. When they came back from the San Joaquin valley, Mr. Rutherford homesteaded near Shandon, leasing other land besides, and carried on general farming and stock-raising, continuing to enlarge his herds until 1907, when he sold out and bought the McNeil place of three hundred twenty acres. There he maintained the stock industry with increasing success, until his death, on September 25, 1915, as the result of an automobile accident. After his death, Mrs. Rutherford ran the place; and in December, 1915, she added to her holdings by purchase of the George Brown ranch of three hundred ninety-six acres in Tucker cañon. She moved onto this, and is carrying on a large stock business by leasing range land and operating about fifteen hundred acres. She also raises grain, principally wheat, putting in about two hundred seventy-five acres each year.

The Rutherford place, located nine miles east of Shandon, is watered by springs, streams and wells, and is well adapted for the stock business. The brand, an M and an R connected by a bar, is well known among stockmen and range riders. Mrs. Rutherford makes a specialty of shorthorn Durham cattle and Poland-China hogs.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford three children were born. Belle, Mrs. Hughes, lives on a ranch in the San Joaquin valley; Edward LeRoy farms with his mother; and Theodore is also at home. In fraternal circles, Mrs. Rutherford is a member of the American Yeomen. She is a member of the Methodist Church, and in national politics is a Democrat.

**JOHN HUDSON.**—It may be that the desire to maintain the traditions of an enviable ancestry has influenced the life and work of John Hudson, since his family were represented among the pioneers of 1845 in California, in the vanguard of that horde of immigrants that crossed the trackless desert with teams of slow-moving oxen drawing the old prairie schooners with their loads of precious human freight; for many of the hardy pioneers brought with them, to share their dangers and successes, their wives and children. He was a son of Andrew J. Hudson, who was born in Missouri and who accompanied his father, William Hudson, across the plains to California in 1844, when he was a lad of only eight years. William Hudson wintered en route, and arrived in this state in May of 1845, settling near Sacramento for a time, and then went to Sonoma county and was living there when the Bear Flag party was organized and the flag was raised over Old Sonoma. He acted as a scout during the troublous times when Fremont was trying to win the territory of California for the United States. He had one brother, David Hudson, who was First Lieutenant of the California Volunteers. William Hudson was a gunsmith by trade, but followed mining and stock-raising in California, and died at Napa.

Andrew J. Hudson grew to manhood amid the trying times of the frontier when there were lawless bands roving all over the settled and rich portions of the state, and was educated in the primitive schools of the early day. He was a butcher by trade, and was married in Lake county to Sarah Burtnett, who was born in Springfield, Ill., and came across the plains in 1863 with her parents and settled in Lake county. After her marriage she went with her husband to Napa county. They lived there until 1867, when, with his wife and one child, he came to San Luis Obispo County and settled north of San Luis Obispo, where he was engaged in farming. In 1869 he bought a ranch north of Cayucos, where he took up butchering and stock-raising. In 1876 he made another move, this time to a ranch that he had purchased five miles west of Templeton; which consisted of five hundred twenty-five acres; and here he followed stock-raising and dairying until his death in 1907, at the age of seventy-three years. His wife passed away in 1899. They were parents of eight children, six of whom are now living. These eight children are William, living near Templeton; John, the subject of this review; Harry, near Templeton; Tina, who lives near Paso Robles; Carol, Mrs. J. L. Reynolds, also of Paso Robles; Emma, Mrs. Gates, who died at Templeton in April, 1914; Burt, in Tehama county; and Ernest, who was accidentally killed by being hit with a derrick fork on a threshing machine, August 10, 1916.

John, the second child in his father's family, was born on August 28, 1870, on his father's ranch near Cayucos. He attended the public schools of that section, where he was reared on the home place and early learned the details of successful ranching. He also learned the trade of carpenter. In 1894, he left home and went to San Francisco, remaining there about one year; then he went to Los Angeles and soon after into Ventura

county, where his grandfather, Peter Burnett, was living. He assisted him one year and then settled for several years near Templeton as foreman on a stock ranch. His next employment was as foreman of the warehouse for the Templeton Milling Co. and he held this position ten years, since which time he has followed contracting and building, meeting with success in his work. He also served as administrator of the estates of his father, of his sister, Mrs. Emma Gates, and of his brother Ernest Hudson, and all of these very responsible duties he has discharged with infinite care and accuracy in every detail. He is a man who makes and holds friends, and has a wide acquaintance throughout the county.

Mr. Hudson was united in marriage in Templeton with Miss Effie J. Kemp, who was born in Maryland, and they have three children—John Charles and Eva J., who are both attending the Paso Robles high school in the class of 1918; and Chestina Elizabeth. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church. In politics Mr. Hudson votes independently. He is a fine type of self-made man, generous, just and intelligent, well posted on all topics of the day, and with his wife enjoys the hospitality of a host of friends.

**GEORGE W. LINGO.**—Pleasant it is to observe in comfortable retirement those who, like George W. Lingo, the highly-respected pioneer, have won their right to years of rest and enjoyment after years of fatiguing labor in which they made their contribution to the growth of the State. A native of Randolph county, Mo., where he was born on March 25, 1833, his father was Samuel Lingo, a Carolinian who came to Missouri by way of Tennessee, and who was thus one of the very early pioneers in Randolph county. When he died his honored dust reposed in the soil of Macon county, of the same state. His mother was a Miss Sarah Smith, a native of the Carolinas, and has been for years deceased.

George was the fifth eldest of twelve children; was brought up on a farm and sent to a public school of the typical old log-house pattern; and in 1850, when but seventeen years of age, crossed the great plains with an ox team with his father, and commenced mining near Coloma, which he continued until 1854. In the meantime, in 1852, his father had returned to Missouri, and it was not until twenty years later that George made him a visit in the east. In 1854, the young man took up farming near Stockton, buying a ranch and raising grain and hay; and later he traded that place for cattle and ran them free upon the plains. Ten years after he set up farming at Stockton he lost everything he possessed, but with typical courage he commenced his business career over again.

In 1867 he came to San Luis Obispo County, and in 1868 built the Cambria Hotel, the first hostelry seen in Cambria, which he managed for ten years until he sold it. He then homesteaded a hundred sixty acres near Pozo, and pre-empted eighty more, and when he had these two hundred forty acres in good shape, he went into the raising of grain and general farming. He rented more land, and ran a dairy; and those were, indeed, days when the dairyman earned all that he received, for one had to pan and skim the milk as well as churn by hand. He continued on his ranch until 1908, when he sold out and retired to Santa Margarita, where he bought the fourteen lots on which stands his residence.

At Staples Ferry, in San Joaquin county, Mr. Lingo married Miss Patience Epperly, who was born in Randolph county, Mo., on September 9, 1833, a



daughter of Solomon and Phoebe (Gibson) Epperly, who crossed the plains in 1852, and were natives, respectively, of North Carolina and Kentucky. Four children blessed this union: Mary A., now Mrs. R. P. Merrill, who lives at home; Elizabeth E., later Mrs. Cotter, who died here; Margaret A., now Mrs. M. A. Newsom, who lives at Holbrook, Arizona; and George Francis, who also resides with his parents. For forty years Mr. Lingo has been a member of the Odd Fellows, and is now associated with the Chorro Lodge at San Luis Obispo, of which he is a past grand. Mr. and Mrs. Lingo are members of the Rebekahs.

**JAMES PEDROTTA.**—The pioneer blacksmith of Cayucos, James Pedrotta, was born in Golino, canton Ticino, Switzerland, March 9, 1855, and for several years attended the public schools of his village. When he was thirteen years old he was apprenticed to a blacksmith, and for three years served without pay while he lived at home. The next four years he worked as a journeyman in the same shop where he had learned the trade. It was natural that he should be an apt pupil, as his father, Louis, and grandfather, Joseph A., had also followed the trade for many years. Louis Pedrotta, the father, left Switzerland and came to California, settling in Napa City, where he worked at his trade from 1866 until 1872, when he returned to Switzerland, where he continued to make his home until his death.

It was in 1876, four years after his father's return, that James Pedrotta concluded to come to California. Leaving home, he embarked for the United States and, after an uneventful voyage and trip across the continent, arrived safely in St. Helena. Instead of taking up his trade at that time he went to work on a ranch, it being his first experience in that vocation. He did not like the change, and after a time found work for four years at his trade in Rutherford. After this he came to San Luis Obispo County and was employed in the shop owned by P. Sherman in Cambria from February, 1884, until June, 1886.

On July 1, of that year, he came to Cayucos and opened a shop of his own, where he is to be found at the present time, and where he has built up a very profitable trade. His shop is equipped with all modern conveniences known to the trade, and he takes pride in efficient workmanship. Besides running the shop he is local agent for the John Deere Plow Co. and for the Peter Schuttler Farm Truck.

For more than twenty-five years Mr. Pedrotta has been local agent of the Swiss Mutual Benefit Society of Cayucos. He is a member and Past Grand of Cayucos Lodge of Odd Fellows, and is also a member and past officer of the U. A. O. D., of Cayucos. Since becoming a citizen of the United States, on July 13, 1888, he has voted the Republican ticket and has been interested in all movements for the upbuilding of the county.

On June 20, 1886, Mr. Pedrotta was united in marriage, in Cayucos, San Luis Obispo County, with Miss Assunta Bombardieri, who was born in Somo, canton Ticino, Switzerland, on September 20, 1859, and they are parents of the following children: Elvezia, Mrs. Garzoli, of McFarland, California; Erina, Mrs. Ambrogio, of Snelling, California; Flora, Mrs. Spreafico, of San Luis Obispo; Louis, who is assisting his father; Edna, deceased; and Cleve, Cora, Gilda, James and Frank. After Mr. Pedrotta had succeeded in his business, he took his family for a trip back to his old home, and it was there that his daughter Edna passed away.



*James Petrotta*



**HENRY SYKES.**—A resident of California since 1883, Henry Sykes has seen a wonderful transformation in the state since that date, having himself been interested in its agricultural development and its general prosperity. He was born in Philadelphia, February 3, 1833, a son of Joseph and Sarah (Grace) Sykes, natives of England, who came separately to this country, where they met and married. Mr. Sykes settled in Philadelphia long before that city had attained any greatness, and was employed in a dye factory. They had ten children born to them, of whom six grew up and three are now living; and one of Henry's brothers, John Sykes, served in a Colorado regiment during the Civil War and now resides in that state.

When a child, the parents of Henry Sykes moved to Gloucester county, N. J., and settled on a farm, and he remained at home until he was twenty-three. The nearest school was three miles away; and since his services were needed on the farm, he had but little time for schooling. The school house was made of logs with slabs for benches, and was a primitive affair. In 1856, he left home and went to Illinois, worked in Shelby county, and then went on to Kansas, where he spent some time. When the war broke out he returned to Illinois and worked by the month; and then, in October, 1861, he enlisted in Company E, Thirty-second Illinois Volunteer Infantry, and was mustered in at Springfield. He served in Tennessee, Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, through the Carolinas and Virginia, and was wounded in the thigh on April 6, 1862, at the battle of Shiloh. After leaving the hospital, he rejoined his regiment. He was in the campaign leading to Atlanta and was at the taking of Savannah. He veteranized at Bentonville, went to Natchez, was mustered out in Fort Worth, Kan., and took part in the Grand Review at the close of the war. During his term of enlistment, he had many narrow escapes, but fortunately came out of the struggle with only one wound. He was sent back to Springfield, where he was honorably discharged as corporal.

After the war was over Mr. Sykes took a trip back to New Jersey to visit his parents, then went to Douglas county, Kan., and there was united in marriage with Sarah Lucinda Kelley, a native of Indiana. He at once engaged in farming eight miles from Baldwin City. He bought raw land, broke the prairie and began raising corn and hogs. While living there he saw two crops eaten up by grasshoppers. In 1883, he sold his place and came to California; and locating at El Monte, he purchased one hundred twenty acres and farmed it one year. Then he sold out and went to Pomona, and from there to Marietta, San Diego county, where he farmed for a time, after which he bought an apple orchard and raised apples in Soquel, Santa Cruz county, whither he had removed. He continued that line of horticulture until 1912, when he sold out and retired to San Luis Obispo County, where he now lives in the enjoyment of a well earned rest. He is prominent in the Methodist Church, as he has been since the war, and liberally supports the various organizations in the church.

Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Sykes twelve children were born. Mary A. has become Mrs. Baxter at Hemet; Harvey A. is at Olive; Sarah J., Mrs. Tower, lives at Corona; Grace F., Mrs. North, is now in Tulare; the home of Amos J. is in Marietta; Jane A., Mrs. Preston, is in San Bernardino; Rose M., Mrs. Culp, hails from Fullerton; Alice B. is Mrs. Haney of Los Angeles; Mabel B. has become Mrs. William Allred of Spreckels; Lois M. is Mrs. A. Warren Allred, also of Spreckels; Walter F. resides at Paso Robles;

and Elsie, Mrs. Wilcox, is well known in Oxnard. The children have all enjoyed good educational advantages, having attended the public schools, and they have prepared themselves to take their places in the world of business and society.

**GEORGE LOUIS FEIFER MICHELSON.**—As might be expected of one who has spent his entire life in California, George Louis F. Michelson is a patriotic son of the Golden State and ardently champions all measures looking towards the development of the commonwealth. He was born in Oakland, on January 18, 1861, a son of Michael and Jensina (Feifer) Michelson. His father was a sailor and mate under his father-in-law, Captain George Nielsen Feifer, who was master of a vessel that rounded Cape Horn in 1849, bound for California. Captain Feifer had his family with him and they lived on the store ship "Cadmus." While on a trip to China, Mr. and Mrs. Michelson were married by a Swedish missionary. Michael Michelson continued to follow the sea and in 1850 ran the old Southern Pacific steamer "Louise" on the bay from the foot of Market street to the foot of Broadway in Oakland. He had received his papers as master mariner and continued to follow the sea until he retired on account of his health. He was always in the best of humor when it was stormy and was a strictly temperate man, always dependable in a crisis, and held the confidence of his men, from whom he demanded obedience. He was wrecked once on the ocean, but all on board were saved.

While he was running vessels he made his home in East Oakland, but after retiring from the sea, he went to Windsor, Sonoma county, and was engaged in farming until he met his death by accidentally falling from a low roof. He was aged sixty-eight at the time he died. His wife lived to be eighty-four, dying at Windsor in June, 1911. They had three children—Selma, Mrs. Hugh Latimer of Santa Rosa, who died in Windsor; Augusta, who married James Clark and died in Windsor; and George L. F. Michelson, who was educated in the public schools of Oakland until he was seventeen years old, when he moved with his parents to Windsor, Sonoma county. He farmed and improved a place with orchard and vineyard, and continued to reside there for thirty-three years.

After the death of his mother, he sold the place of three hundred acres and moved to Monterey county, December, 1911, where he settled nine miles northeast from San Miguel and bought a ranch of two hundred forty acres and engaged in the dairy business in Lows Cañon.

Mr. Michelson now rents his ranch there and himself leases one hundred seventeen acres three and one-half miles south of Paso Robles, where he engages in raising grain, hay and some stock. He has been uniformly successful in his operations both here and in his old home in Sonoma county.

Mr. Michelson was united in marriage in Sonoma county, on September 13, 1903, with Miss Edna Groves, who was born in Summit, San Luis Obispo County, a daughter of Benjamin and Clara (Morehouse) Groves, pioneers of this county, but both born in Sonoma county and married in Adelaida, San Luis Obispo County. Mr. Groves died while on a visit to Sonoma county and the mother resides on their old home place in Summit. Charles D. Morehouse, the grandfather, was a pioneer of both Sonoma and San Luis Obispo counties, and was a prominent citizen of the state for many years. Mrs. Michelson is the only daughter, the third child in order of birth, in a family

of eight children. Mr. and Mrs. Michelson are the parents of four children. These are Lois Elizabeth, Selma Lucretia, Elwood Nielsen, and Caroline. Mrs. Michelson has been a member of the Christian Church since she was sixteen years of age. Mr. Michelson is a Republican in his political affiliations. He and his wife have won a host of friends since they have become identified with this section of the county; and being natives of the state, they are in touch with conditions bearing on the development and prosperity of the country and the needs of western civilization.

**VIRLIN EUGENE DONELSON.**—Men possessing the fundamental characteristics to which V. E. Donelson is heir have ever been regarded as the bulwarks of the communities in which they have lived. He was born in Douglas county, Ore., May 7, 1860, a son of William Thomas Donelson, a native of Baltimore, Md., who came to the Coast country in 1851, by way of Panama, and settled in Douglas county, Ore., where he was united in marriage with Miss Martha Ennis, a native of Indiana and a daughter of John Ennis. The latter, born in Scotland, stopped for a while in Indiana, but crossed the plains in 1851 with ox-teams and settled in Oregon, where he farmed six hundred acres in the Willamette valley, and died at the age of ninety-one years.

After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Donelson they settled ten miles above Portland, and there Mr. Donelson opened a blacksmith shop and farmed until 1868, when he came south to California and located in Santa Cruz, following his trade for two years. Still looking for a permanent place to make his home, he traveled to Humboldt county, and on Salmon creek built the first shingle mill in the county, running it for a time for Burke & Hancock, until it burned down eighteen months later. From there he went to Rohnerville and ran a shop two years, and then to Garberville, Blocksburg and Bridgeville in turn, working at his trade in shops he bought or rented. He later came to Templeton, where his son had settled, leased land and farmed for a time, and then went back to Eureka, where he passed away at the age of seventy-one years. His wife died there at the age of sixty-two.

The oldest of three sons and two daughters, Virlin E. Donelson was educated in the public schools of Humboldt county, and learned the blacksmith's trade under his father there, working at it with him for some years, while at times he also farmed. He learned the jeweler's trade under Mr. Marshall in Blocksburg, Humboldt county, and followed that and the blacksmith's trade in Blocksburg and Bridgeville. At the latter place he was united in marriage with Miss Nellie B. Hazard, who was born in Los Angeles, whither the young people moved in 1886; but nine months later, in 1887, he settled in Templeton, where he went to work at his trade as blacksmith, and later bought his shop, which he ran twenty-five years to a day, during which time he also did watch-repairing. In October, 1913, Mr. Donelson sold out to start a garage business and the repairing of all kinds of machinery and engines.

Mr. Donelson has been a public officer almost all the time he has been a resident of the county. He was appointed deputy under Sheriff E. T. Neal, served as a constable two terms, was elected justice of the peace on the Democratic ticket in 1902, and has been re-elected at every election for that office since, in 1906-10-14, the last time with no opposition. His term expires in 1919. He has served as school trustee twelve years. The family are mem-

bers of the Presbyterian Church. Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Donelson seven children have been born: Dollie, Mrs. E. W. Germain, of Templeton; Constance, Mrs. Elmer Petterson, of Santa Barbara; Pearl, Mrs. Anderson, of Paso Robles; Vernie, a blacksmith at Atwater, Cal.; and Chester, Dorothy and Dorris, at home.

**SIMON HENLEY McKINZIE.**—A man of the highest integrity, and a self-made man of a fine old family, Simon H. McKinzie is the special agent of the Standard Oil Co., of Paso Robles. He was born in Oregon in 1865. One of his forefathers, Henley McKinzie, his grandfather, was a native of Virginia, born of Scotch ancestry in 1792. Henley McKinzie was a colonel in the War of 1812. From the South he came to Wisconsin, and in 1852 crossed the plains with ox teams to Oregon, where he located near Portland, taking up there a six hundred forty acre donation land claim. Later he moved to the vicinity of Eugene, and there, in 1868, he died.

Simon's father, Caswell McKinzie, was born near Lancaster, Wis., in 1842, and when he was ten years old he crossed the plains and later followed farming in Oregon until 1877. He settled for a while at Walla Walla, Wash., where he followed teaming. He afterward lived and worked at Spokane, and is now enjoying retirement in Seattle. Caswell's wife was Louisa Bell before her marriage, a native of Illinois and the daughter of Nathaniel Bell, who crossed the plains in 1853 to Oregon, located at Oregon City and spent his last days at Walla Walla. Mrs. Caswell McKinzie died at Grangeville, Ida., in 1909.

The third oldest of six children, Simon McKinzie attended the country school and helped his father on their ranch until he was twenty-one years old, when he started in the express business at Spokane under the firm name of the McKinzie Transfer Co. After some years he removed to Grangeville, Ida., where he continued the same enterprise, to which he added that of freighting. Grangeville was then a far-inland town, seventy miles from the railroad at Lewistown, at the head of navigation on Snake river, and there was plenty to do in hauling goods, with four- and six-horse teams, through mud and over snow heaped fifteen and twenty feet high above the usual level of the roads, so that he frequently had thrilling adventures and many narrow escapes. This hazardous undertaking he continued from 1895 until 1903.

At Spokane, July 26, 1888, Simon McKinzie was married to Miss Hattie Dittamore, who was born in Jasper county, Ill., the second youngest daughter of James Dittamore, himself a native of Gosport, Ind., and a farmer who moved to Jasper county, Ill. Her grandfather, William Dittamore, had been born in Germany, but later settled in Indiana, and still later had made his home in Illinois. Her mother was Miss Minerva Lane, an Indianan, the daughter of William Lane, of Tennessee. Both her father and mother died in Illinois, leaving four children, all of whom are still living.

In 1903, Mr. McKinzie located with his wife and family in Paso Robles, once again engaging in the transfer business, which he sold out, in April, 1916. Four years previously, when the Standard Oil Co. opened a branch here, he became their special agent, and has since continued in that capacity.

Five children are among Mr. and Mrs. McKinzie's treasures. Bessie, who has become Mrs. Thomas H. Richards, lives at Bay City, Mich.; Venona is well known as Mrs. F. J. Murphy of Paso Robles; Clara is a member of the Class of '17, Paso Robles High School; while Thomas and Arthur are

in the Grammar Schools. Outside of their family circle, this estimable couple find much social pleasure in fraternal societies, he being a member of the Woodmen of the World and the Knights of Pythias, while she is a member of the Women of Woodcraft and Pythian Sisters. Mr. McKinzie is an active Republican, and is a member of the local Chamber of Commerce; and Mrs. McKinzie shows her public-spiritedness in serving, for the second term, as member and vice-president of the board of trustees of the Paso Robles Free Library, to which she gives much thought and attention.

**HJALMAR HAABESLAND.**—A self-made man, Hjalmar Haabesland, the assistant cashier of the Citizens Bank in San Miguel, commands the respect and admiration of those who note his progress. He was born in Lillesand, Norway, on October 23, 1884, and is a son of Swen Haabesland, who was born in the year 1825, and was a tanner and leather dealer, and later a shoe manufacturer of Lillesand. Hale and hearty, the old gentleman retired at the age of ninety-one, having served his community for years as Tax Collector and Assessor. His mother was Mary Theresa Swege, who died in the same place in 1907, where she was also born. Six of the eight children of this worthy Norwegian couple are still living, two of the boys being in California and two of the girls residing in Brooklyn, N. Y.

Hjalmar was the third youngest, and was brought up at the grammar and high schools at Lillesand, where he specialized in languages and commerce, and finished his preparation by half a year's apprenticeship with his father. In 1900, he came to the United States and to Newberry, Mich., in which town he was employed by a lumber company in the Upper Peninsula, after which he clerked for a while in a grocery store, thereby acquiring everyday English. The year 1902 smiled upon him in opening California to his vision, and by the fall he was at San Miguel, where his brother, Nicholi, already resided. For six months he worked for the S. P. R. R. Co., and then worked on the Nacimiento Ranch, where he drove teams for the great harvesters, and for five years thereafter held the reins and whipped the mules over the rough country roads. Another clerkship in a grocery store, conducted by Ellery Wilmar, opened to him, and then he was bookkeeper for the San Miguel Flouring Mill Co.

Undoubtedly Mr. Haabesland's convincing personality, as well as his proficiency with columns of figures, led to his appointment, in 1912, as Assistant Cashier of the Citizens Bank at its San Miguel branch, a position in which he has given evidence of the qualifications necessary for the making of a success in this line of business.

In June, 1916, wedding bells in Stockton announced the marriage of Hjalmar Haabesland to Miss May Belle Eklund, a native of Vineyard Canon, Monterey county, the daughter of Olaf Eklund, then a farmer of that vicinity, but now a vineyardist near Lodi. After the usual preparatory schooling, Mrs. Haabesland had graduated from the San Jose State Normal, and had taught school for a while before her marriage, with the result that today she shares a lively interest with her husband in all matters pertaining to the educational uplift of San Miguel.

Mr. Haabesland was made a Mason in San Miguel Lodge No. 285, and is now Master of the Lodge, and he is also Past Grand of San Miguel Lodge 340, I. O. O. F. More than this, he is a member of the San Miguel Improvement Club. Mrs. Haabesland was a member and Past President of the Lodi



Parlor, N. D. G. W., and was Grand Delegate to the Grand Parlor in 1914; and she is now a member of San Miguel Parlor No. 94.

**MRS. MAGDALINA PINKERT.**—Even travelers motoring through Paso Robles, and making no pretense to stopping there longer than to take a meal or two, will scarcely fail to climb to the top of Merry Hill, and there, amid several open acres, with a magnificent valley spread out before them, imbibe to their heart's content of the mineral water so long famous for its curative properties, and of particular benefit to those afflicted with rheumatism, kidney and stomach troubles, insomnia and gout.

An interesting story is revived as to how these famous mineral waters came into the possession of the present owner, Mrs. Magdalena Pinkert. Her husband, Julius H. Pinkert, was an old settler in California, whose birthplace was none other than the famous art center of Germany, Dresden, from which city, as a tailor, and while yet a young man, he came to Texas. Three years afterward he was plying his trade in San Francisco, and there, in 1894, he married Miss Magdalena Neiderstrasse, a native of Saalfelden, Austria. She was the daughter of Mathias and Anna (Hochweimer) Neiderstrasse, who were farmers. Mrs. Pinkert attended the Austrian public schools, and with her sister, Crescentia, came to San Francisco in 1891, where she resided until her marriage.

The first venture of the ambitious couple was in the management of a hotel at Emeryville, and this Mrs. Pinkert still owns. About ten years ago Mrs. Pinkert suffered so severely from rheumatism that she came to Paso Robles for relief, and finding in the mineral waters of Merry Hill the most astonishing cure, she persuaded her husband to purchase the entire property of about six acres; and while they lived there—having moved in the next day, and having soon after built a neat home and several houses for the springs—they put the water up in five-gallon bottles and shipped it all over the state.

On April 1, 1911, at the age of fifty-eight, Mr. Pinkert died, and was duly buried in the Paso Robles cemetery, after which his widow leased the place and returned to Emeryville. She is looking forward, however, to the day when her business affairs will permit her to return to Paso Robles. Her sister, Mrs. Catherine Merkel, is assisting her in the management of her affairs.

For the benefit of those who may be seeking such medicinal relief, it may be interesting here to give the analysis of the Merry Hill Mineral Water made by the State University:

	Grs. Per Gal.	Parts Per 10,000
Potassium Sulphate.....	5.39	.93
Sodium Sulphate (Glauber's Salt), etc.....	4.77	.81
Sodium Chloride (Common Salt).....	1.23	.21
Sodium Carbonate (Sal Soda).....	17.52	3.00
Calcium and Magnesium Carbonates.....	.88	.15
Calcium Sulphate (Gypsum).....	6.13	1.05
Organic matter and chemically combined water.....	35.92	6.15
Total .....		



*Mrs Magdalena Pinkert*



**FRED SCHUTTE.** Seldom, if ever, has the progressive California horticulturist been so well represented as in the noble exhibit at the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, some years ago, when berries, with a circumference of five and six inches, won the admiration of both the layman and the specialist. The marvelous product of Nature's bounty and the skill of man was entered by Fred Schutte, now the well-known manager of the Oak Ridge Orchard Co., one of the hustling citizens of Templeton; and among the most optimistic believers in the future of this town. Fred is a native of Westphalia, Germany, where he was born on the same day of the month as was the poet Longfellow, February 27, 1864. His father was Frederick Schutte, a merchant tailor, and his mother, Louise (Meier), both of whom are now dead. There were five boys and two girls in the family, Fred being the second eldest; and two of the brothers are in America, while two others, with twelve nephews, are at the front in the German Army. Like himself, Henry and William Schutte are horticulturists.

Reared in the country of his birth, Fred went to work when only six years of age in a cigar factory, and learned the cigarmaker's trade, while he attended school at night. He next worked on a farm for three years, and when well in his teens broke away from the Fatherland and came to more promising America. In September, 1881, he landed at New York, and not long afterward found himself in St. Louis, near which city he obtained employment for several years as a gardener on a truck farm. In 1885, he abandoned Missouri and passed a year in Madison county, Ill.

Sometime in October of the following year, Mr. Schutte pushed on to San Jose, Cal., where he commenced orcharding, a vocation which he has since pursued, finally taking a course in horticulture at the Portland Correspondence School. In February, 1887, he set out a nursery at Lompoc. After five years, however, he moved from there to Gardena, near Los Angeles, where he bought fifteen acres of choice land. He soon astonished the natives by sinking there the first Artesian well for irrigation, dropping the bore two hundred ten feet, and securing a flow of water which rose to within five feet of the surface. His pumping plant was likewise the first in Gardena, and he was soon busy raising great fields of strawberries. When he sold out, in 1892, and moved to Los Angeles, he had the largest strawberry patch in all California, devoting twenty acres to the fruit, which required forty pickers to gather, and for the delivery of which he made several trips a day to Los Angeles. In 1900, Mr. Schutte came north to the Linden district on the Calaveras river, in the San Joaquin valley, and there bought new land and started a new orchard. This time he planted or set out almond trees, apricots and peaches, filling sixty acres; and such success did he meet with that he was not only able to ship his fruit east and to sell to the great canneries, but he realized considerable profit by drying a good percentage of his products. Having thus again established his reputation as an orchardist, he sold out in 1911.

After a trip to Mexico, when, for six months, he looked over the republic to the south, and a brief stop at Huntington Beach, he came to San Luis Obispo County in 1912, and organized here the Oak Ridge Orchard Co., with which he identified himself as manager from the start. He bought the Niels Johnson Ranch of a thousand acres, just outside of Templeton, cleared and improved considerable of it, setting out a hundred acres of pears, forty acres

... acres of apples, and twenty acres of almonds, a good part of which he seems disposed to sell to anyone who may wish to try the experiment with him, and here he plans to establish a packing-house with canneries and similar business enterprises. He has given half of the site for the new high school, and proposes to develop the undertaking on the broadest and most attractive lines.

At Elk Grove, in Sacramento county, in 1890, Fred Schutte was married to Mrs. Mary (Gillett) Manthie, a native of Canada, and the daughter of J. B. Gillett, a mason, who brought his family to Chicago when Mary was four months old. There he farmed for a while, and in 1856 moved to Blue Earth City, Faribault county, Minn., where he supported his family as a farmer and defended them as a frontier militiaman against the threatening Indians. That there was need for such alertness in respect to the savages may be seen from the fact that the little company was but forty miles from the place where the terrible New Ulm massacre occurred. Mrs. Schutte's first marriage, in 1869, also occurred in Minnesota, after which she came to California. Mr. Manthie died in Lompoc. One child, Raymond, who attends the Templeton high school, was born of the present union.

For years Fred Schutte was a popular Odd Fellow, a member of the Rebekahs and the Foresters; but he is no longer active in these orders. For the past couple of decades both husband and wife have been Christian Scientists, and as such have organized the church at Templeton, in which they have both been readers. Mr. Schutte's popularity among business men is attested by his election to the presidency of the Templeton Board of Trade. He is a Republican.

**HANSON WILLIAM TRUE.**—The transformation wrought in California during the past forty or fifty years is due to the energy and patient perseverance of the pioneers, who, having left comfortable homes in the East, identified themselves with the newer West, and out of its crudity evolved the present-day civilization. Belonging to this class of men is Hanson W. True. He was born in Lower Salem, Washington county, O., December 17, 1840, a son of William B. True, a farmer, who married Jane Dutton. The True family trace their lineage back to Holland. Some members of the family came to America on the ship that followed the "Mayflower" to Plymouth Rock, Mass.

Hanson W. True was an oil operator in West Virginia until 1884, when he came to San Luis Obispo County. Here he pre-empted one hundred sixty acres of land and bought eighty acres adjoining, and did a general farming until his death, on February 18, 1913.

Mr. True served in the Civil War. He enlisted in Company I, 25th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, in June, 1861, and was mustered into service at Camp Chase on June 28, 1861, and took part in all the eighteen battles with his regiment until he received several wounds, the last time at Gettysburg, July 1, 1863, in his right arm, when he had to have a part of the ulna bone taken out, so that he lost the use of it thereafter. The company went out with a hundred men and only twelve came back. He was sent to Philadelphia and remained there until he was mustered out.

Hanson W. True was united in marriage, on February 17, 1875, with Miss Mary Alice Sawyer, who was born in West Columbia, Mason county, W. Va., on April 5, 1854, a daughter of John Sawyer (mentioned in the sketch

of M. H. Brooks). She was reared and educated in her home community, and since the death of her husband has taken charge of the home place, where with the aid of her one son, Charles, she is making a success of ranching. Charles is married and has two children.

Mr. True, with others, hauled the lumber from San Luis Obispo for the first schoolhouse, which was built at Union, in this section of the county. He was director of the Farmers' Alliance Business Association for many years, and for a time was president of the board, until he resigned in 1911. He was a Mason for over forty years, having joined the order soon after the Civil War. He was public-spirited and won a large circle of friends during his lifetime in the county.

**ROYAL EUGENE BOWEN.**—A pioneer in point of service with the S. P. Milling Co., as foreman of their warehouse at Paso Robles, where he has been since 1889, Royal Eugene Bowen has given his best efforts towards building up and maintaining a prosperous business for his company, and is recognized as an honored citizen of that city, in which so many years of his active life have been spent. He was born in Lawrenceville, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., August 21, 1846.

The father, Rufus William Bowen, was born in Grafton, N. H., July 5, 1814. He was a carpenter and builder, and removed to Franklin county, N. Y., where he was united in marriage at Moira, May 10, 1841, with Hannah M. Stickney, who was born there July 4, 1821. They removed to Lawrenceville, then to Palmyra, and again back to Moira, Mr. Bowen meanwhile following his trade. He was employed in the building business in Chicago, Ill., where he was accidentally struck by a Rock Island train, from the effects of which he died, July 10, 1881. His wife had passed away on May 22 of the same year.

Next in line was the grandfather, William Bowen, who was born in Grafton, October 23, 1786. He was a carpenter and shipbuilder and removed to Franklin county, N. Y., and followed his trade. On September 27, 1812, he married Catherine Cass, born in 1795, a daughter of Nason Cass, who was born in New Hampshire, May 24, 1751, and who married Sarah Hoyt Poplin, on October 15, 1777. They had twelve children, of whom Catherine was the ninth in order of birth. She died at Schoolcraft, Mich. She was of the same family as General Cass of military fame. The Bowen family are of Welsh descent and were early settlers in New England, some of the members taking part in the Revolutionary War. There are three generations of the William Bowen family living in California at present.

On the maternal side of the family Mrs. Hannah M. Bowen was a daughter of Charles Stickney, born in Concord, Addison county, Vt., on May 17, 1785. He married Betsy Pierce, who was born in New Salem, Mass., April 11, 1790; they were married April 11, 1809, and Hannah was the seventh child in a family of twelve children. Charles Stickney died in Moira, N. Y., March 23, 1858, and his wife died there on December 29, 1860. They were connected with the same family as President Franklin Pierce.

Royal Eugene Bowen is the third child in his father's family of nine children, three of whom are now living. He was reared in Moira, N. Y., had the advantages of the public schools there and worked on a farm until he came to California in 1874, locating in Monterey. He was employed by David Jacks until 1889, when he came to Paso Robles, and entered the employ

of the S. P. Milling Co. as warehouse foreman—a position held ever since with credit to himself. When he took charge here their building was four hundred fifty feet long; now it is nine hundred fifty. They used to hoist the grain by horse power, but now use a steam hoist. In one year he has handled 20,000 tons of grain. He erected the home he now occupies, and there he has lived for twenty-five years.

Mr. Bowen was united in marriage in San Jose with Mrs. Catherine (Miley) Thompson, a native of Ann Arbor, Mich. By her first marriage she had one daughter, Jennie, Mrs. A. L. Young of Oakland. The family are members of the Methodist Church, Mr. Bowen being chairman of the board of stewards. In politics he is Republican.

**ALFRED THEODORE LOVGREN.**—A native of the Gopher State, Alfred Lovgren was born at Red Wing on May 24, 1879, the sixth in order of birth of ten children. His grandfather, Oscar Lovgren, was a large farmer in Smaalan, who brought his family to the United States, traveled up the Mississippi river to Illinois, and then moved farther west to Minnesota. There also he was a large landowner, and acquired considerable wealth before he died. Charles Lovgren, the father of Alfred, was born in Smaalan, Sweden, and brought his family to Moline, Illinois, and thence two years later to Minnesota, settling near Red Wing. In 1886, he made a trip to California, and in Bethel he bought a hundred twenty acres of land from the West Coast Land Co., after which he returned to Minnesota.

Six years passed before he was ready to move nearer the Pacific; then he sold his Minnesota holdings, and traveled with his wife and ten children to the Bethel district. This was in 1892; and success attending his efforts at grain-raising, he bought additional land and owned one hundred forty-three acres. When he retired, he moved to Templeton in 1910; and there, in May, 1915, his wife, formerly Miss Christene Johnson, whom he had married in Sweden, passed away; and in July, 1916, he also died as the result of a painful accident. The presumption is that a gasoline stove exploded, and in his attempt to extinguish the flames he was fatally burned. He was a Lutheran deacon and superintendent of the Sunday School for years, and served his community as a school trustee of the Bethel district.

All the ten children of this union were born in the United States, and all are living in California, though Alfred is the only one in San Luis Obispo County. Brought up in Minnesota until he was thirteen, and attending the public schools there, Alfred came with his parents to this farm in 1892, and from that date was reared here, finishing his schooling in the Bethel district, and farming for his father. When he was eighteen he went to Oakland, where he was employed till he was twenty, when he joined his brother, Algert Lovgren, in a grain and stock-raising venture on land his brother had managed for the previous seven years. They rented several thousand acres on the Eureka Ranch, and went in for raising grain, horses, beef cattle and hogs. This ranch they operated for seven years, and then disposed of their personal property at auction. The sale lasted two days, and included a free barbecue. It was the biggest sale in San Luis Obispo County up to that time. His brother now resides in Fresno county.

Alfred then took a trip through Mexico and Arizona; and returning a few months later he rented his father's place and has run it ever since. He is serving, in addition, as the administrator of his father's estate. He also







*Victor Ortega*

rents other land, bringing the total up to some four hundred thirty acres, planting to wheat and barley and putting in about three hundred acres a year.

He uses two big teams and a header, and operates the place according to the latest approved methods.

In the Bethel district, Alfred Lovgren was united in marriage on November 1, 1911, with Miss Anna Catherine Johnson, who was born there, a daughter of Andrew Johnson. Three children, Elden, Bernice and Willard, have blessed their union. Mr. Lovgren is a Progressive Republican, and a member of the county central committee. He and his wife are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church.

**VICTOR ORTEGA.**—Whatever meed of praise is earned by and accorded to the American pioneer and his descendants, who have contributed so much to develop this great commonwealth along the Pacific, the true American, and especially the Yankee Californian, will never fail to accord the native Californian, and those who bear his historic name, the fullest credit for his important part in the wonderful transformation so effected. Among such native names, none stands higher than that of the Ortegas, in whose veins flows some of the noblest Castilian blood. This line of Spanish descent is worthily represented in Cholame by Victor Ortega, the successful farmer and stockman. His grandfather was Manuel F. Ortega, a native of Spain, who came to San Francisco in early days, moved south to San Diego county, married there and had a large family; and afterward returned to Spain, where he died.

Victor's father was Emider M. Ortega, who was born at San Luis Capistrano, in San Diego county, and grew up to be a vaquero, dying in Ventura county. His mother, Concepcion (Domingues) Ortega, was born at San Luis Obispo, the daughter of Pedro Domingues, who was killed by the Indians. When she died at Ventura, in 1911, she was ninety-eight years and eight months old. As a cattleman, the elder Ortega did business with the missions at San Miguel and San Fernando and on the big ranches, he himself owning a ranch where the sugar factory at Santa Maria now stands. Later he owned a farm on the Ortega Hill.

The youngest of a family of six boys and four girls, Victor Ortega was born at Santa Barbara on June 18, 1858, and was brought up in the same town, attending the public school there. In 1882, he went to work for Mr. Clark on the Sacramento ranch; and in his service he remained for eighteen years as a vaquero, never losing, in that period, a day from work.

At Shandon, Mr. Ortega was married to Miss Josephine Hughes, a lady who was born in Los Angeles of parents who came from the East. After their marriage, the Ortegas settled, in 1907, on the present ranch, bought a claim, and homesteaded a hundred sixty acres, and there engaged in stock- and grain-raising. The Ortegas also bought land adjoining, so that now they have four hundred eighty acres of fine ranch land given to stock- and grain-raising. Some two hundred acres a year are seeded to grain, and choice Durham cattle are raised on the ranch. He leases range land on the Cholame grant, where he runs his cattle. His cattle brand, VO, is known all over this country. He has a large and fine herd.

Victor Ortega is a member of the Native Sons of the Golden West, San Luis Obispo parlor. He is an influential Republican, whose counsel is often sought.

**JAMES BARNHART.**—Strange, indeed, must it sometimes seem to James Barnhart, the veteran dairyman, when the work of the day has all been done and the last operations are completed, in which machinery and mechanical devices have played such an important part, to look back and contemplate the contrast in dairying methods of the past and the present. From Westfield, near Delhi, Delaware county, N. Y., he came, having been born there on December 1, 1858. His father was George Barnhart, a native of that county and a farmer of German descent who, having distinguished himself in the Civil War as a member of the 44th N. Y. Regiment, spent his last days at San Luis Obispo. His mother was Elizabeth Taylor before her marriage, a native of Scotland, who came with her father and the rest of the family from Europe to Delaware county when she was sixteen years old. She passed away at Cambria.

The second eldest of three children, James grew up on a New York farm, attended a country school, and when the great tide of tourists in the eighties began to flow into California, he came to the Coast and found work in 1886, at the dairy of a cousin, James Taylor, at Cambria. There he remained four years, when he leased the dairy for himself, and for another four years managed it with considerable success. There were six hundred forty acres in the ranch and a hundred cows to be cared for, and in those days one had something to do. When he left that district, he did so to buy a dairy ranch on San Simeon creek, where he had control of three hundred thirty acres stocked with thirty choice cows. This enterprise engaged him for another round of four years, after which he rented his ranch and returned to that of James Taylor, where he ran the Taylor dairy for another four years. At that time there were no separators. All of the milk had to be panned, and the cream was skimmed by hand. The butter was made up into rolls, which were shipped to the San Francisco and Los Angeles markets. After a while he traded his ranch for a dairy farm of three hundred acres in Green Valley, near the James Taylor place; and later he disposed of his cows and rented out the land.

Since then he has been interested in stock-raising in various parts of San Luis Obispo County, in 1915 locating at Adelaida, where he bought a hundred fifty-eight acres, one mile north of the postoffice. For some years Mr. Barnhart had been a sufferer from asthma, but here he found great relief. He engaged again in farming and dairying, this time having a separator and every modern device, and shipping away his cream, famed for its richness. The finest of Holstein and Durham cattle were his, and when he came to sell his coast farm recently, his reputation as a judge of quality contributed much to a fortunate sale.

In the old Mission city of San Luis Obispo, Mr. Barnhart was married to Miss Ella Agnes Weir, a native of Seattle, Wash., and the daughter of John and Lizzie Murphey, who were born in Pennsylvania, and who settled in Santa Cruz county, moving later to the Summit district in San Luis Obispo County, where they farmed. The father died there, and the mother now resides in Los Angeles. Mrs. Barnhart was educated in the Summit schools. They have one child, a most attractive daughter named Maude Edith. Though absorbed in business, Mr. Barnhart has still found it possible to keep up with the trend of political events, and in the discharge of his duty as a citizen has occupied a conspicuous position in local Republican ranks.

**EDWARD SHERMAN MOREHOUS.** If every son of a pioneer were as proud of his connection with the early days as is Edward Sherman Morehous, the energetic rancher, horticulturist and contractor of Paso Robles, there would be more of the pioneer spirit in evidence. He is a son of Charles and Hulda M. (Low) Morehouse, pioneers whose biography will be found elsewhere in this work. The records of the family back in New York state show that the name formerly was not spelled with a final "e," although in 1877 some of the family added it, so that both spellings are used at the present time.

Edward S. Morehous was born in Healdsburg, April 19, 1868, and when six months old his parents moved to the section about Summit, in San Luis Obispo County, where he attended the Summit school and began work on his father's farm. He then went to learn the saddler's trade in San Luis Obispo, and in 1886 located in Paso Robles and helped to manufacture some of the first harnesses that were made in the new town. He opened a shop on Pine street and for twelve years carried on a good business. In 1910 he sold out and became foreman of a ranch owned by the Fair Oaks Land Co., putting in nearly three years superintending the clearing and planting of a tract of land to an orchard, principally almonds; and after the work was completed he returned to town and began taking contracts for erecting houses and other buildings and met with success.

A member of the Knights of Pythias and the Fraternal Brotherhood, Mr. Morehous has had much to do with establishing lodges of the latter fraternal order as deputy Supreme President, in Washington, Nevada, Idaho and Oregon. He has been ably assisted by his wife, who was formerly Miss Susie Andrus, born in Travers City, Mich., where she received her education. They were united in marriage in San Diego, on October 22, 1897. Mr. Morehous is a deacon in the Christian Church. He votes the Republican ticket at national elections; while in local matters he aims to support the men he considers best suited for the office regardless of party lines. Both Mr. and Mrs. Morehous have hosts of friends in their community, and have made many warm friendships during their travels.

**MRS. ANNIA BLAIR MORTON.**—Mrs. Morton is one of those women of keen and correct perception who very accurately estimate the comparative advantages of the State in which they reside, and who believe that nowhere on this rollicking, happy old globe is there anything to be found so charming as California climate.

A native of the old Quaker city of Philadelphia, and the daughter of Cicero Blair, a North Carolinian, of English descent, Mrs. Morton was Miss Annia Blair before her marriage, and grew up in a certain environment of beauty, her father having been a prominent architect, who followed his profession until he was able comfortably to retire. Her mother was Miss Elizabeth Powell, a belle of Havana when Mr. Blair sought her heart and hand. In Raleigh, North Carolina, Miss Annia Blair was married to Frederick Morton, a native of Maine, who had been reared in Baltimore, and who, after a successful business career, retired to Philadelphia, where he lived until his death.

In her travels through many attractive lands, Mrs. Morton had her attention directed in particular to the great Commonwealth on the Pacific Coast, and finding in this state those climatic conditions most desirable for health,

she concluded to cast in her fortunes with California. Particularly was she attracted, on account of the mineral waters and the mild and stable conditions of climate, to the growing inland spa, Paso Robles, where she now owns, at the corner of Spring and Tenth streets, one of the most beautiful residences to be seen anywhere. Deeply appreciative of all the salubrious qualities of the climate here, Mrs. Morton loves to work among her flowers and often regrets that she cannot give these almost human creatures more of her personal attention.

Her elegantly furnished home is replete with the luxuries making life worth living. She directs her religious life and governs her charities according to the known tenets and liberal practices of the Baptist Church. She is keenly alive to the dissemination of Republican principles and the triumph of Republican government. Independent, liberal and hospitable in the extreme, Mrs. Morton is a charming woman who contributes in a modest but an effective way to what is most desirable in a charming town.

**CHARLES WILSON.**—Among the upbuilders of San Luis Obispo County and of the State, must be mentioned Charles Wilson, who worked for years as a carpenter and expert finisher all through California. Mr. Wilson is a native of Sweden, in which land he was born at Oscarshavn, on November 19, 1847. He came to America in 1865, where his father, Hans Wilson, a worthy farmer, brought his family. His mother, Sarah (Larson) Wilson, had died before the family's exodus from their northern home.

The second youngest of seven children, Charles attended the schools in Sweden; but on reaching Chicago, to which city his father journeyed and where the latter died after some years of gardening work in Lincoln Park, the lad was apprenticed to a carpenter. He had hardly learned the trade and begun to establish himself, however, before his very existence was threatened by the great fire in that city, the good that the fateful wind blew to him being that he was on hand to help build the city after it had been destroyed.

As a natural result, he worked as a contractor and builder in that city until September, 1891, when he came to California. Three weeks after his arrival he selected his present ranch, buying a hundred six acres, four and a half miles southwest of Paso Robles.

As early as the 4th of November, 1871, Mr. Wilson was married at Chicago to Miss Sophia Johnson, who was born near Filipstad, Sweden, a daughter of John and Caroline (Nelson) Johnson, who brought their family to Chicago in 1869; and when Mr. Wilson came west his wife and four children accompanied him to California. Mrs. Wilson's father was an iron worker in Sweden, and became a puddler in the great steel mills. Both he and his wife died in the Lake City.

With considerable vigor, Charles Wilson entered on his labor at farming, but he still followed the trade of a carpenter and builder, showing his skill in construction work at Templeton, Paso Robles, San Jose, and even San Francisco and Los Angeles. Some thirty years ago he also bought forty-seven acres of the Eureka Ranch across the river from Templeton, and there he engaged in the raising of grain.

The family of Mr. Wilson includes the following children: Frank A., who was for sixteen years in San Francisco with the Standard Oil Co., and

who was present at the San Francisco fire, and now superintends the home-ranch; George Edwin, who is with the People's Water Co. in Berkeley; Charles Herbert, who works for the Griffin & Skelly Fruit Co., San Francisco; Harry Elmer, who is studying dentistry at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in San Francisco; and Lillian A., who resides in Piedmont.

Mr. Wilson is a Republican in national politics, but independent in local affairs. He is a member of the Scandia Life Insurance Co., and with his wife belongs to the Swedish Lutheran Church at Templeton.

**PETER C. LAMBRECHT.**—A prominent citizen of the vicinity of Paso Robles, in San Luis Obispo County, a son of a pioneer of California in 1850, and himself born in San Francisco, Peter C. Lambrecht first saw the light of day on March 20, 1872. He was a son of Christian Hans August Lambrecht, a native of Schleswig, at that time a province of Denmark, who followed the sea for a livelihood until the year 1850, when he landed in the United States and, with a companion from his native land, crossed the plains when he was but sixteen years old, making for the Golden State. Upon arrival here, young Lambrecht went to mining for a short time, but found it did not pay, in the long run, and, with a partner, began freighting into the mining country with a twenty-mule team. The country traversed was infested with Indians and many narrow escapes were had by this intrepid young man during the time he was so employed, or until the arrival of the railroad, which put the freighters out of business in 1870. He had saved his money, and so came to Solano county and rented a ranch of Ben Rush southeast of Suisun in the Potrero hills, and for two years was engaged in general farming. In 1872, he went to San Francisco and remained until 1874. In the meantime he had married Carolina Anker, who was born in Bonholm, Denmark, and had come to this country at an early date. After the birth of the son, Peter C., the parents made plans to return to Denmark and settle down on some land and live quietly the balance of their lives, as Mr. Lambrecht had prospered and saved a nice sum of money. Accordingly, in the year mentioned they went back to their native land; and there he bought a farm at Bonholm, and engaged in the dairy business. He and his wife are still residents of that section, and both are enjoying the best of health. Of their five children, four are now living. Of these, only two are in this state.

Peter C. Lambrecht was reared in Bonholm, Denmark, where, until he reached the age of sixteen, he attended the local schools, meanwhile learning agriculture as it was carried on in that part of the world. In 1888, he decided to come to the land of his birth, and accordingly left home and friends and came to this state to take up the burden of self-support on a ranch in Solano county, where he arrived on May 9, of that year. He worked for an uncle, Fred Lambrecht, until he was twenty years old, and saved his money to make an independent start. In the fall of 1892 he came to this county, bringing with him a bunch of good mules, leased a ranch near Shandon and farmed four hundred acres for four years with a partner, Ed Somie; and besides this tract they rented other land and farmed on a large scale. After the partnership was dissolved, Mr. Lambrecht rented one thousand acres for a year near Creston; then, for eight years, he was on the Doyle place. During these years he had been industrious and saving; and having enough ahead to make a payment on a ranch of his own, he purchased the

hundred acres five miles from Templeton; he also rented property near and did business on a large scale for two years, when the Doyle ranch was sold. He next rented eight hundred acres four miles from Paso Robles and ran that five years, in the meantime selling his place near Templeton at a good advance.

By that time his children had become old enough to go to school, and Mr. Lambrecht moved his family to Paso Robles, so the children could have the advantages of the city schools; while he leased eight hundred acres of the Estrella and five hundred acres of the Sacramento ranches and raised grain on a large scale, running three ten-mule teams, a combined harvester and other modern machinery and implements for the successful conduct of his ranching interests. Besides his wheat and barley, he makes a specialty of raising mules for market.

On March 24, 1897, in Shandon, Peter C. Lambrecht and Miss Christen Larsen were united in marriage. She was born at Oasis, Millard county, Utah, a daughter of Christian and Stina (Lassen) Larsen, both born in Denmark, but early residents of Utah, where Mr. Larsen mined and farmed until he came to this county and ranched near Shandon. He is now living in Creston. Of the eight children living, Mrs. Lambrecht is the third in order of birth. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Lambrecht six children were born: Alfred, assisting his father; Goldie, who died aged two and one-half years; and Laura, Ellery, Gladys, and Ferris. Mr. Lambrecht is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters. Politically he is independent. He is a self-made man, successful, well and favorably known all over this part of the county, public-spirited, progressive and an upbuilder of the county where his success has been made.

**ELVERT ANDREW JOHNSON.**—"Sweet are the uses of adversity," says someone in Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, and no one will voice the truth of the proverb more than Elvert Andrew Johnson, who, finding himself at an early age loaded with heavy responsibility due to his father's failing health, shouldered his burden courageously and thereby assumed not so much a weight of discouragement as a bundle of good fortune. In the old Andrew Johnson house in the Bethel district, Elvert Andrew Johnson was born on August 15, 1891. His father and mother were Andrew and Anna (Pedersen) Johnson, both early settlers of that vicinity. As will be seen by the sketch of Elvert's brother Albert, his father was a farmer and also a stone mason and plasterer. He gave the lad such chance as he could to get an education, and Elvert attended the public school of his district and improved the

At a decidedly early age, he took in hand the management of the home farm, to relieve his father, whose health was giving way. Later he rented the farm, bought some stock and implements, and took his younger brother, Henry, into partnership. The latter was also born on the home place, on June 25, 1893. Mr. Johnson's experience in agriculture, and in the handling of big teams, enabled him to conduct the farming operations successfully, and he has since operated the home farm, raising both grain and stock with good results. Not satisfied with this responsible undertaking, he has rented other lands in addition, and operates in all nearly five hundred acres, putting in three bushels of wheat, barley, grain and hay. He has also cut wood, and either sells it in Templeton or ships it to San Jose.

Physically, Mr. Johnson is well built, a man of stalwart figure, indicating great muscular strength, and his frank, genial face evidences quite as much strength of character.

A Republican, Mr. Johnson does his own thinking. He is a member of the Lutheran Church and is treasurer of the Young People's Society, and thus finds opportunity along the lines of organized effort to give expression to his large-heartedness and hospitality.

**MARION FRANCIS GATES.**—A farmer and dairyman of the Templeton district whose position and standing are the result of hard work, energy and foresight conscientiously and carefully applied, Marion Francis Gates is a native son, born in Fresno county on October 12, 1879. His father was Solomon Gates, a Canadian farmer, who came to California when he was fourteen in company with his older brother, Thomas. The two crossed the plains to Mendocino county, and near Willits they took up farming and the raising of cattle. Solomon Gates, in time, married Miss Zerelda Shimmin, who was born in Wisconsin, a daughter of William E. and Farewell Shimmin, more details of whose lives will be found in the sketch of the brother, Marion Shimmin. In 1874, the couple went to Tulare and Fresno counties, and in 1885 they located for several months at Arroyo Grande. They resided for a time at Adelaida, and also at Shandon. Mr. Gates located a homestead in the Eagle district, where he took possession of a hundred sixty acres. As soon as he was able, he bought more land, farming the whole successfully for many years, until his retirement, when he settled at Fresno. The good wife of Solomon Gates, Marion's mother, died nearly thirty years ago, near Edna, this county.

Our subject was the third youngest of seven children, five of whom are still living, and when the mother died he lived with grandmother Shimmin, the father being away, and there he was brought into vigorous competition in farm work with the Shimmin boys. When twenty he engaged, with his brothers and sisters, in more extensive farming, renting lands, some of it on the Estrella, and cultivating three hundred acres or more. This partnership was continued for six or seven years, after which it was dissolved, and Marion went back to Fresno county, where he leased a dairy at Cross Creek with fifty cows. At the end of a year he sold out and went to Fresno, and after two years of activity there he was back in San Luis Obispo County, at Paso Robles, where he put in a year and a half as one of the valued employees of Shimmin & Stevens, at the Emporium.

Severing his connection with that institution, with a partner he bought his present farm of a hundred thirty acres across from Templeton, took charge of the ranch and made many improvements, installing a pumping plant and bringing twenty acres under excellent irrigation. Here they set up in market gardening, and also raised grain and hay. In addition, they have a small herd of dairy cattle; and for the last seven or eight years they have also been raising hogs.

While at Cambria, Marion Gates was married to Miss Lulu M. Phillips, who was born near there, and who is a daughter of William Phillips, the well-known pioneer; and from this marriage have come six children—Le Roy Douglas, Kenneth, Marion Roland, Meredith Eugene, and Lloyd Maitland, all of whom are still living, and Marjorie Frances, deceased. Mr. Gates is a member of the Independent Order of Foresters. He is an elder in the Pres-



lytten (C. M. J.) at Templeton, is superintendent of the Sunday school, and was a delegate from the Santa Barbara Presbytery to the General Assembly at Rochester, N. Y., in 1915. He is serving his third term as school trustee for the Templeton district, and is now clerk of the board.

**JAMES PETER NEGRANTI, SR.**—The son of a miner who came from his native canton of Ticino in the Swiss Alps to California, via Cape Horn, in 1851, and who, after landing in San Francisco, went to the mines to try his luck in that kind of work, but later became a rancher and owned a ranch near Sacramento, now the site of the Sacramento County Hospital property—such is the lineage of James Peter Negranti, the son of James Negranti. After a few years of successful ranching, the elder Negranti returned to his native land, but in crossing the St. Gothard mountains his legs were so badly frozen that he was laid up for months. He married Maria Stockini and located on a farm in Ticino, but the "Wanderlust" was so strong in him that he joined a party of young men bound for Australia, who, after landing at Melbourne, went to Ballarat and mined for about five years. Then Mr. Negranti was taken sick and died, leaving a widow and an only child, the subject of this review. The mother lived on her place in her native land until her death in 1913, at the age of eighty years.

James Peter Negranti went to school at Maggia until he was fourteen years old; but so many of the young men of his section were leaving for California, the land of sunshine and gold, that he made up his mind that he would try his own fortunes here. Accordingly, on December 1, 1874, we find him just arrived in Bodega, Sonoma County, with fifteen lonely dollars in his pocket. He obtained work, for that was what he came for, and was on a dairy ranch two years; and during the summer he had a chance to go to the Bodega Bay school, thus improving his English and fitting himself for business in later life. He was ambitious to get ahead, and he stuck to his work and saved his money. In 1876, he came down to San Luis Obispo County and worked one year on a ranch on Old creek. The year 1877 was a dry year, and there was no work; so he went to Napa county and stayed two years, and then went to Sacramento county, the old stamping-ground of his father, and worked for wages about two years.

In 1883, he went back to see his mother in Switzerland, and while there he was married on February 26, 1884, to Miss Cora de Bernardi. She was born in Maggia, a daughter of Peter and Ursula (Bonetti) de Bernardi, who were farmers and hotel keepers, and there the young people remained until April, 1886, when Mr. Negranti came back to California, leaving his wife in Maggia. He engaged in farming and teaming for about a year in Sacramento, and then went to Washoe county, Nev., where he teamed to the mines for two years. He found this fairly profitable, but he wanted to get into something more stable; so in 1889 he came back to San Luis Obispo County, rented a ranch on Toro creek, about four miles from Cayucos, and engaged in dairying.

In 1891, his wife and his two children joined him there, and the next year he moved to a ranch on Old creek and conducted a dairy until 1900, when he bought the place he now operates, which contains four hundred fifty-eight acres, on Willow creek, two miles and a half from Cayucos. He has about seventy milch cows, raises grain and hay, and is meeting with success. The ranch is well watered by Willow creek and numerous springs, the water



James W. Stewart & Co.

Portrait Photographers



being piped to the residence and dairy house, which has a water-power separator and churn. He used the old methods in the early days, running the milk and skimmed it by hand, and ran the churn by horse-power. With the modern machinery since installed, the work is done in short order, and much more satisfactorily in every way.

In 1910, Mr. Negranti bought the old Wallace place on Toro creek, where he first started in business. This has five hundred sixty acres of fine land and is conducted by his oldest son, James P., Jr. The place will sustain about seventy cows; the dairy house is equipped with a cheese factory, operated during a certain season of the year, where is manufactured the finest of California cheese.

Mr. and Mrs. Negranti have six children: James P., Jr., and Virgil, who own an alfalfa ranch near Imperial, which is conducted by the latter; and Cora, Peter, Stella and Mario, all at home with their parents. Mr. Negranti served for years as a trustee of the Central school district. The family belong to St. Joseph Catholic church in Cayucos. In politics, Mr. Negranti is a staunch Republican, and is heartily in accord with all progressive movements for the upbuilding of the county and the state of his adoption. With his wife he enjoys the esteem of a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, and looks back through the vista of years to a life well spent and a success of his own making.

**FREDERIC CUENDET.**—Beginning at the bottom of the ladder and working his way to a position of prominence in the community by his own persistency of purpose and strict attention to business, Frederic Cuendet has won a place for himself in the citizenship of Paso Robles. He was born in Saint Croix, canton Vaud, Switzerland, August 7, 1885, a son of Emil Cuendet, who was born there and was a musician of ability. His grandfather was Ulysses Cuendet, a blacksmith. The Cuendet family trace their lineage back to France, where, as Calvinists, they were forced to flee their country on account of religious persecution of the Huguenots; and going to Switzerland they settled there. The mother was Louise J. Geneux, and with her husband she is living in Switzerland. Of their five children, Frederic is the second in order of birth and the only one living in America.

Frederic Cuendet was educated in the grammar and high schools, and after completing the high school course was apprenticed as a blacksmith at St. Croix, served four years, and then worked in various parts of Germany and France.

Sailing from Bremen in 1905 for California, by way of New York, he arrived in Paso Robles in February of that year, and was employed at his trade, starting at fifteen dollars a month and board. Not being able to speak English, he took what was offered him until he mastered our language by having a private teacher for six months, and then studying by himself until he could converse and read English.

His advances in salary were so satisfactory that on December 25, 1910, he bought out his employer, J. A. Wiebe, and since then he has continued the blacksmith business at the same old stand, enlarging the building to suit his needs, and adding new machinery. He now has an up-to-date shop for all kinds of repairing and blacksmithing, and is also a carriage and wagon maker. Mr. Cuendet is a Republican, and a Calvinist.

married on marriage with Miss Christine Mohl, born in Tübingen, Germany, and they have one child, Stanley Samuel. Mrs. Cuendet is a Lutheran. Mr. Cuendet is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is a self-made man and one who has hosts of friends in this part of the county, where he is well and favorably known.

**LAURITS N. AAROE.**—It is always interesting to chronicle the life history of a truly self-made man, who, beginning at the bottom of the ladder with nothing but his two strong hands and a strong, healthy body, has by industry and close application become a substantial, well-to-do man. Such an one is Laurits N. Aaroe, who is now a substantial and progressive farmer and stock raiser, living near Paso Robles. He was born at Apenrade, Schleswig, Denmark, December 29, 1860, in the home of his father, Aaben Aaroe, a well-to-do farmer, and of his mother, Annie Lauritsen. Mr. Aaroe was the eldest and the first to come to California. Then three others came. The mother being deceased, the father could not stand the depletion of the family; so with the three youngest children, he came to California in 1884, where he spent the rest of his days.

Laurits Aaroe received his education in the schools near his home and from a lad assisted with the work on the home farm. There he learned the lessons of industry and thrift, which aided him greatly in acquiring a foothold and competency, after he was started in this land of opportunity, the Golden West, where he arrived in 1877. He first worked for wages on farms and at teaming in Monterey county until 1882, when he leased some of Dave Jacks' land, and harvested his first crop of grain by means of header and thrasher. The next year he rented land at Gonzales, continuing until 1890, when he went to Soledad, and leased nine hundred twenty-five acres from A. Allen. There he raised grain for sixteen years, using two big teams in its cultivation, and at times his crop yielded from nine to ten thousand sacks. In 1905, he removed to Paso Robles, purchasing his present place of four hundred fifty acres, later adding eighty acres to it. He now has a ranch of five hundred thirty acres in a body, two and a half miles east of Paso Robles. Here he has made valuable improvements, building a new residence and barns and setting out an orchard. About three hundred acres are sown to grain. In the operation of his farm he uses the latest improved machinery, including a combined harvester by which, after his crop is cared for, he cuts and threshes for his neighbors, averaging in a season about 1,000 acres. He is also engaged in raising cattle, horses and mules. In Gonzales, September 17, 1887, he was married to Miss Ingeborg Hansen, who was also born in Schleswig, and is a sister of the late Mrs. Thomas Petersen of Templeton, a daughter of Hans J. and Ingeborg Hansen, farmers, who passed their entire life near Apenrade. Mrs. Aaroe was educated in her native place and came to Monterey county in May, 1886, where her brother, Matt Hansen, and her sister, Mrs. Petersen, were living. Mr. and Mrs. Aaroe have two children—Hans N., farming at Union, and Anna C., who married Herman Jespersen, a farmer near her home. Mrs. Aaroe is a thrifty and painstaking woman and has been an able and valuable assistant to her husband in aiding him and encouraging him in his ambition to succeed and become a man of affairs. A Lutheran in religion and a Democrat in politics, Mr. Aaroe is an enterprising and progressive man whose reliability and integrity are unquestioned and whose word is as good as his bond.

**MATT WILLIAM ERICKSON.**—Matt William Erickson is not the first man in the history of the world who, in the language of sacred writ, spent all his money upon physicians, in the end only to be benefited by none of them; and what interests us the most is the fact that his misfortune led him to come to California, a decision he has never had cause to regret. In Oravis, Vasalan, Finland, on the 3rd of June, in 1870, Matt was born, his father and mother being plain but God-fearing farmer folk, who gave the lad the best start they could. Particularly did his sainted mother, who died at the age of seventy-nine, light his pathway at the threshold of life, and Matt loves to tell how the dear old lady gave him private instruction, so that when he was confirmed he received from his pastor a beautiful bible as a prize and testimonial of his high standing in the class. He early assisted about the farm, learning to handle teams, and at fifteen he went to Helsingfors, where he was apprenticed to a carpenter to learn the carpenters' trade.

Receiving in time good wages, he had saved enough, in four years, to pay his way to New York City; and he sailed to that port in 1880. In that great city of marvelous architectural features, he worked as a carpenter and bridge-builder, and in time directed gangs on the skyscrapers in New York, Philadelphia, Buffalo and Albany, and on the Pennsylvania and Erie railroads. Seven times he was taken to the hospital through injuries received in the prosecution of his dangerous work; and while at New Haven or Hartford he contracted malaria of the most persistent form. All medical aid proved of little avail, and following the advice of physicians to come to California, he made for the Pacific Coast; and here he almost immediately experienced relief. In New York he married Matilda Nylund, a native of Finland, and she having a sister, Mrs. Sandberg, in Linne, San Luis Obispo County, the expectant couple directed their steps to that town. There they settled, but some years afterwards a terrible accident deprived him of his beloved wife and cast a deep shadow over his life. As she was driving along a mountain roadway her horse shied and backed the carriage over the edge of the road. Mrs. Erickson was killed, while her little child was injured and died three weeks later, although the six-year-old son, Edwin, miraculously spared, crawled from under the debris, and was able to make his way to some workmen near, to whom he gave the alarm.

Mr. Erickson had bought eighty acres with a house and then built a barn and laid out a vineyard and an orchard, and soon after he added another parcel of equal size, which he devoted to the raising of stock and grain. Five children, four of whom are still living, were born of his first marriage: Theodore, who is in the San Luis Obispo Polytechnic; Leo, who is raising grain; Edward, who is assisting his father on the farm; and Vivian, who is at home.

Some years later Mr. Erickson married a second time, at Linne, where he was united to Miss Elizabeth Malmberg, a native of Iowa, the daughter of Rev. Anders O. Malmberg, whose sketch will be found elsewhere in this volume. Victor, John W. and Otto L. are the names of the three children by this second marriage. Aside from his absorbing duties as an agriculturist, Mr. Erickson finds time to follow the political events of the day, in which he takes an active interest, in the main supporting the Republican party and its platforms.

**THOMAS FRANCIS FREEMAN.**—Starting at the bottom of the ladder, after the failure of his father on account of the devastating Civil War, Thomas F. Freeman has won success for himself in California, and as one of the Vigilantes who cleaned up Texas and disposed of the undesirables there, as did the Vigilantes here, he helped make that state a better place in which to live. Born in Indian Springs, Butts county, Ga., July 25, 1850, he is a son of Josiah, a native of North Carolina and overseer on a plantation, who married Sarah W. Hearn. She was born in Putnam county, a daughter of Samuel Francis Hearn, a native of Scotland who came to Georgia and was a freighter there before any railroads were built, and who became a cotton planter and died in Georgia. The grandfather, Thomas P. Freeman, brought the family to Monroe county, Ga. He served in the War of 1812, and was otherwise prominently identified with his state till his death. He was of Scotch-Irish descent, and of the hardiest of the pioneer class. Josiah Freeman became a cotton planter after his marriage, and had three thousand acres in his plantation when the war broke out; but the war made such inroads upon his fortune and property, destroying all that he had, that he never recovered his financial position. He died at the age of seventy-one years.

The oldest of five living children of the ten born to his parents, Thomas Francis Freeman was raised on the plantation and went to the subscription schools until the war broke out, when there were no advantages at all for getting an education. Afterwards he studied for a time and continued at home assisting his father until he was twenty-four; then he was united in marriage with Miss Susan Brown, who was born in Monroe county, Ga., a daughter of Alex and Mary S. (Bryant) Brown. The ancestors of the Brown family came from England and were members of the Oglethorpe colony in Georgia.

After Mr. Freeman had married, he located on a farm in Monroe county and engaged in cotton raising until 1880, when he removed to the Lone Star State and near Graham, Young county, bought a large ranch and engaged in farming and raising stock, having at one time three hundred head. His brand was for a time SOS, later changed to S on the hip and shoulder. He had 3,000 acres fenced and well improved. There Mr. Freeman made a success of his undertaking and continued prosperously engaged until selling out in 1905, when he came to California.

While residing in Texas that state was terrorized by a band of rene-gades and cattle thieves known as the rustlers, who ran off thousands of head of stock from the ranches. The cattlemen banded themselves together to rid the country of these thieves; and the "Vigilantes" elected Mr. Freeman president of their organization. They waged relentless war on the bandits until they were driven out of the state, co-operating with the various regularly elected authorities in their work.

After locating in Monterey county for two years, Mr. Freeman came down to the vicinity of Paso Robles and bought a fine ranch of two hundred acres four miles from town, where he engages in raising mules, having two of the finest jacks in this part of the state. Here he has been successful and is held in the highest esteem. He and Mrs. Freeman are very hospitable and have many friends throughout this section of the country. They have had eight children, and five of them are now living: Rega D., who is on Estrella creek, ranching; Josiah, a rancher near here; Mollie Holtz, man-







Vincenzo Agli' Carolina Bassi.

aging the home farm; Anna Ethel, Mrs. Jones of Corona; and Maude May, Mrs. Spencer, who is at home.

Mr. Freeman was made a Mason in Georgia, and affiliated with the lodge at Graham but is now demitted. He is a Democrat in politics and served as school trustee for years in Texas. Mrs. Freeman is a member of the Baptist Church.

**VINCENZO BASSI.**—It is largely due to the enterprise of the Swiss people that San Luis Obispo County is recognized as one of the leading dairy sections in the state. They practically pioneered that industry, which from a small beginning has developed into large proportions. Among the men who have taken an active part in this line of work, Vincenzo Bassi is deserving of credit. He was born in the town of St. Antonio, canton Ticino, December 8, 1859, a son of Andrea Bassi, who was also a native of that place. V. Bassi spent his early boyhood attending school in his native town; but as he grew to young manhood he could find no avenue by which he could make any advancement. He had a brother, Antone, in California, who had written encouraging letters home; and he was fired with the ambition to seek his fortunes in the New World.

Leaving home in December, 1878, he came to New York by way of Liverpool, and direct to San Francisco, arriving in January, 1879. He was accompanied by a friend, Ercole Biaggini, from whom he separated in San Francisco, Mr. Bassi going to Fort Ross, Sonoma county, where his brother lived. He found employment almost immediately, and for the following three years was engaged on various ranches in that county, working for fifteen months near Duncans Mill. He next spent six months in Vallejo, and from there, in 1883, came down to San Luis Obispo County, whither three of his brothers had already preceded him. He learned that in this county better opportunities were offered for a working man to get a start, and his first year here was spent on a dairy ranch. He then leased five hundred acres of land three miles from Cambria, bought stock and began an independent enterprise of dairying; but meeting with little success on that place, he moved to Santa Rosa creek, leased the Archer ranch of six hundred acres and followed the stock and dairy business with a fair degree of reward for the energy expended.

As he prospered, he saved his money, and then made his first purchase of land, about fifteen hundred acres at the head of Green valley, upon which he immediately set to work to make improvements, engaging in the grain and stock business. The land was unimproved when he bought it, and he has made all the improvements seen today. He added by purchase four hundred sixty acres more, and on his nineteen hundred sixty acres he has been busily and profitably employed in raising stock and grain. He has given his entire time and attention to his business, and while he has met with success in his work, it was not without many almost unsurmountable discouragements.

He made and sold butter to the market for many years, and when the Harmony Valley Creamery Association was formed, he became a stockholder and soon afterwards a director. The Bassi ranch is watered by Green Valley creek, Villa creek, and numerous mountain springs, making of it a fine ranch. The land is cleared and sufficient hay and grain are raised for the stock. The water is piped from three different springs, about a mile and a half away,

to the residence and other buildings, and furnishes power to run the separator, to grind feed and to supply the laundry.

Mr. Bassi became a citizen of this country in 1883, and is a Republican in politics. He has always been in favor of good schools, and has served on the board of trustees of the Mammoth Rock district six years, and is now trustee, and has been clerk of the board, of Olmstead district. During these years the schools have been materially improved.

On November 26, 1883, in San Luis Obispo, occurred the wedding that united V. Bassi and Carolina Carmine in marriage. She was born in Giubiasco, canton Ticino, June 6, 1863, and arrived in this country with her sister in 1883. Her father was John Carmine, a stock-raiser near Bellanzana, who now lives on his farm, at the fine old age of eighty-eight years. His wife was Josephine Bomio, and she also was born at Giubiasco. She became the mother of six children, four of whom are living in San Luis Obispo County. Mrs. Bassi was educated in the public schools of her native place and was reared on the farm of her parents until coming to California. Mr. and Mrs. Bassi have had nine children: Andrew, in Los Angeles; Emma, the wife of Frank Morenzoni, of Santa Rosa creek district; Americo, a farmer near home; Amelio, at home; Josie, who married Marino Filipponi of Cambria; and Sylvia, Alfred, Olivia, and Mary, the last three being at home with their parents. All the children have been born and educated in San Luis Obispo County and are prepared for the battle of life and to enter upon its activities.

**FRITZ CLAUSEN.**—One of the enterprising business men of Templeton, San Luis Obispo County, and one who favors the development of the county's resources and gives his liberal support to all such enterprises, is Fritz Clausen, a native of Denmark, where he was born at Nakskov, Laaland, August 14, 1865, a son of Sir Clausen, a native of that place who served in the Danish Navy in 1863-64, in the war between Germany and Denmark, and who died in 1911 at the age of eighty-six years. His wife, Christine Jorgensen, also born there, died two days after her husband and both were buried in one grave. They had six children, five of whom are living, Fritz being the fourth in order of birth and the only one in the United States.

He was educated in the public schools and brought up on the farm owned and operated by his parents, although he also worked for wages on the farms in his locality. When he was twenty-one he came to America and, in 1886, located in South Dakota, near Vermilion, Clay county, where his uncle, Ludvig Jorgensen, was living; and there he remained with him for two years, when he went to Seattle, worked at logging and took contracts for hauling logs. In 1891 he came to California, located in Watsonville and engaged in growing potatoes for the San Francisco markets, carrying on that line of work until 1895, when he went to Santa Maria and raised sugar beets for two years.

In 1897, Mr. Clausen settled in Templeton, farming until 1900, when he embarked in the mercantile business. The town had burned; and he bought a lot and, with a partner, erected a building and started a general store. One year later Mr. Clausen bought out his partner's interest and since then he has conducted the business under the name of F. Clausen. In 1903-04 he burned brick and, having moved his wooden store back facing on Fourth street, where he uses it for a warehouse, erected a new two-story brick store, 75x60 feet, with three store-rooms, each twenty-five feet in size. The second

floor is adapted for a hotel and lull, and the structure is known as the Clausen Building. He also has a ranch of two hundred twenty acres seven miles from town, leased for grain-raising. Since 1900 the Pacific Telephone & Telegraph Co.'s central office has been in his store, and he is the local manager.

Mr. Clausen was married, in 1900, to Miss Lulu Johnson, who was born in Watsonville; and they have three children—Lester, Harold and Thelma. Mr. Clausen is a member of the Lutheran Church, and of the Fraternal Brotherhood. He is agent for several fire insurance companies.

**CHARLES M. CAREAGA.**—Residing on the northwest oil lease of the great, historic Careaga rancho at Bicknell, to superintend the important oil and gas interests of the family estate, Charles M. Careaga is well known as one of the most progressive representatives of one of the oldest and most notable of California families, and as one of the most aggressive citizens in one of the newest and most flourishing parts of the state. His earliest forefather, of whom he has definite knowledge, was a titled Spaniard who came to the New World as the loyal devotee of the King of Spain, and did valiant service as a soldier, particularly in Mexico. An equally valiant Careaga of a later date was the subject's grandfather, Colonel Saturnino Careaga, one of Captain Munoz's staff, who left Mexico to do duty as a soldier at Monterey, and saved the Mission at San Jose, albeit it nearly cost him his life to do so.

Ramon F. Careaga, Charles' father, was a son of the colonel, and though too late in the century to participate personally and prominently in the great events marking the height and passing of Spanish dominion here, he nevertheless was the custodian of much intensely interesting reminiscence and tradition. This pioneer, who died in 1914, was in many respects a remarkable man. He showed his business ability when, with a brother, Juan B. Careaga, and a friend, Daniel Harris, he bought some eighteen thousand acres of the old De la Guerra ranch, eventually retaining for himself six thousand nine hundred seventy acres—property that became the center of the Santa Maria valley oil fields, having been leased by the Western Union people when the first commercial well of importance was sunk there.

Seven sons blessed the marriage—celebrated with true Spanish elegance and California hospitality—of Ramon Careaga to Señorita Maria Antonia Bonevantur, daughter of a Frenchman who had come to Monterey and had there wedded another charming lady of Castilian descent. Luis has settled at Santa Barbara; Ramon is at San Jose; his partner, John T., is with him in the same city; Bernardo lives on the Careaga ranch; Antonio F. resides with his mother; James F. is a stockman near Los Alamos; and Charles M., the youngest of the boys, has assumed the trust referred to above. There are also four girls: Eleanor has become Mrs. John Carr, a resident on a part of the Careaga ranch; Rita I. attends the Notre Dame school at San Jose; and Evangeline and Angeline are with their mother.

Some years ago, Charles M. Careaga married Miss Myrtle June Hawkins, a favorite daughter of Santa Barbara, who is still famous in the district in which she lives, both for her personality and charms, and for her qualities as a good neighbor and a genial hostess.

Owing to the large commercial interests involved in the yield of the Careaga ranches, much responsibility is imposed on Charles Careaga, who nevertheless forges ahead, meeting each day's problems and labor, and bearing

modestly the honors coming his way. Oil and gas, discovered by the merest accident, through the outcropping of asphalt, are a continual source of income; and from lands leased to tenants come handsome returns through the sale of cattle and other stock, and of farm products, especially beans. All in all, there is much to be looked after on the Careaga ranch, and Charles is just the man needed to see that nothing is neglected and all is well done.

**P. F. VANDERPOOL.**—With what marvelous magnetic force the spell of California has operated again and again in the history of the pioneer to bring him back to her golden shores after he has foresworn his allegiance, is demonstrated in the simple but inspiring story of Harding Vanderpool, father of P. F. Vanderpool, of Paso Robles. He was a native of Hackensack, N. J., and a carpenter who, in 1849, when he was about twenty-four years of age, went south to Galveston and from there across the plains to California by the old Santa Fe trail. On his way up the Coast, from Los Angeles county to San Francisco Bay, he camped over night near the old mission of San Miguel, and then went to the mines. He spent a month or more as a carpenter in San Francisco, and later mined in Yreka. One winter was spent at Astoria, Ore., in building a sawmill.

In 1853, he returned to New Jersey by way of Panama, later coming as far west as Newton, Jasper county, Iowa, where he hung out his sign as a carpenter and also farmed. There he married Miss Sarah Hammack, a native of Tennessee. In 1873, yearning again for the Pacific, he crossed the continent to Amador county and located as a rancher at Plymouth. In this state he spent his last days, dying at the home of his son, P. F. Vanderpool, in Paso Robles in April, 1916, more than ninety-one years of age. His wife had died on the 29th of the previous month in the same place, at the age of seventy-eight. The well-mated couple had enjoyed sixty years or more of married life.

Of six children born to Mr. and Mrs. Harding Vanderpool, four are living; and of these P. F. Vanderpool is the eldest. He was born in Newton, Iowa, where he first saw the light on December 4, 1857. Until he was fifteen, therefore, he lived upon an Iowa farm, meanwhile attending the public schools, and in the early seventies came with his parents to California, where in time he engaged in ranching. In 1896, he took up mining in Little Indian Creek, he and his father having first secured a ranch there adapted to alfalfa and stock-raising, which happened to have within its confines a fairly good placer mine. The dairy business next engrossed him, and at one time he had as many as twenty-five cows. In that district he remained for thirty-seven years, during which time, for thirteen years, he was school trustee.

By 1910 he had sold his ranch and located at Paso Robles, buying there a neat little place of twenty acres known as the Ysabel Terrace, where he now resides with his family in a handsome residence. He improved the property, sinking a well, and installing a pumping plant, and laid out a fine gardening place. He was married on April 30, 1897, at San Jose, to Miss Cynthia Marvin, who was born at Shelrock, now Glenville, Freeborn county, Minn. She was the daughter of Willard Marvin, a Vermonter, who married Huldah Wilcox, a native of New York. They were pioneers in Minnesota, where the father died. The mother died at Paso Robles, aged eighty-four years. Mrs. Vanderpool was one of the five children, the youngest of three who





*Eugenio Biancellini*

are living. She came to Alameda, Cal., in June, 1889, and later lived at San Jose until she was married. Mr. and Mrs. Vanderpool have an adopted son, James, who bears their name; and in the kindness of their hearts they are also raising another orphaned child, Clara.

Mr. Vanderpool is a member of the Methodist Church, and a teacher of the Sunday school Bible class. As a Republican he seeks to discharge his duties in civil and civic affairs.

**EUGENIO BIANCHINI.**—This state has been the Mecca for people of all nationalities, for they nearly all find here a wide field of opportunity where they may put forth their best efforts and win success for themselves, at the same time that they are developing industries that mean much for the future prosperity of the state. Of this class of men, Eugenio Bianchini is deserving of mention. He was born in Gordevio, canton Ticino, Switzerland, July 20, 1861, and attended the public schools until he was fourteen years of age. He was then apprenticed to the stonecutter's trade, and for the first three years received one dollar a month and lived at home with his parents. The trade did not particularly appeal to him, and he looked about for other opportunities. In speaking with an old gentleman in his old home town of possibilities for young men, the veteran asked, "How are you going to find the ring, if nobody lost one?" and young Bianchini saw the point that, in order to reap success, he must go where the opportunity was ripe.

In 1878, therefore, having decided to make a change, he sailed for the United States and arrived in Cambria on February 17. He was not familiar with the English language and had but very little money when he reached his destination, but he found employment at once, and for the next four years milked cows on various ranches in that vicinity. He saved his money and, in 1882, leased land from Ed. Shaw in Green Valley, and in the following few years succeeded in laying a foundation for his future success. He sold out his stock and, in 1886, opened a butcher shop in Cayucos, and for six years carried on a good business. His next move was to engage, for twelve months, in mining for quicksilver at Oceanic, and then he returned to the butcher business, opening a shop in Cambria and running it one year.

He then leased five hundred acres on Santa Rosa creek and began dairying. In 1902 he purchased the ranch, and continued at dairying, with fifty cows, besides raising stock. The ranch is located on the county road eight miles from Cambria. Water from a spring is piped to the residence and dairy house, where he has installed a water turbine which furnishes power to run the separator. He continued dairying until 1914, when he rented the home place, intending to retire from active pursuits and enjoy the fruits of his years of arduous labors, and purchased the residence where the family now reside in Cambria. However, the demand for quicksilver occasioned by the present European war decided him to take up mining once more; and in partnership with A. Luchessa and William Bagby, he purchased the Klau mine and was given the management. He is now engaged in operating the mine and retorting quicksilver, meeting with success and averaging a flask a day. The mine is equipped with track and cars for hauling the ore from the mine to the furnace, which is a sixty-ton Scott. The history of the Klau mine is full of interest.

A young Spaniard named Felipe Vallegas came to California when twenty-one years of age, was engaged in various occupations, and finally in



raising sheep and goats. After his marriage with Helena Rochas, he lived on a branch of Huero creek. There his wife died, leaving a son, Felipe, Jr., whom the father was rearing at his camp. On coming home one day he found the little lad had strayed away from home; so he at once started to look for him in the different cañons, and it was while climbing over the hills that he discovered a cinnabar ledge. He located the mine, opened it up, put up a retort and engaged in mining and retorting quicksilver.

The mine was first called the Santa Cruz, later the Sunderland, then the Dubost and now the Klau. Mr. Bianchini, with his two partners, organized the Klau Mining Company, and they are now mining and retorting quicksilver with success. New ledges are being opened up and operations extended. Felipe Vallegas lived in these parts until his death at the age of seventy, and the lad Felipe, Jr., is now foreman of the Klau mine, originally discovered and operated by his father.

In San Luis Obispo, September 17, 1899, occurred the marriage of E. Bianchini with Louisa Bezzini, born in Avigno, Switzerland, and who came to California in 1897. They have had nine children, seven of whom are living: Henry, William, James, Walter, Elvira, Palmira and Tillie. Mr. Bianchini has won recognition and distinction at barbecuing meats, and from 1902 until the present time he has had charge of the barbecues of importance in the county, and has always been much sought after for that purpose. Of late he has initiated his son William into the mysteries of the art and has handed the palm over to him.

In politics, Mr. Bianchini supports the men and measures of the Republican party. He served as road master of district number one on Santa Rosa creek for a number of years, and for eight years was trustee of Mammoth school district.

**MIGUEL D. SANCHEZ.**—A justifiable pride of birth is one of the cherished legacies left to Miguel D. Sanchez of San Luis Obispo County. He was born in Ventura county, near El Rio, on September 28, 1856, and comes of a distinguished Castilian family. His father, Pacifico Sanchez, was a cattleman, born in Ventura county, a son of Juan Sanchez, who came to California from Spain. He was the owner of Punta de la Loma (Point of the Hill) ranch, where he raised sheep and cattle on a large scale until he sold off most of the land to Sciappa Pietra, keeping only a small tract for members of his family. He was the owner of valuable property in Ventura. Pacifico Sanchez became a well-to-do stockman, and married Concepcion Villa, a native of Los Angeles. She had five children and died at her home.

The third child in the family, Miguel D. Sanchez was reared in Ventura county until thirteen, when he went to Santa Ynez, where he attended the Santa Ynez College, in charge of the Christian Brothers, and afterwards St. Vincent's College in Los Angeles. His college course completed, Mr. Sanchez engaged in farming near Ventura, where he had a seventy-acre vineyard. He sold out and learned the trade of barber in a shop in Hueneme under his cousin, Louis E. Carnes. Later he went to Guadalupe and ran a barber shop until 1902, when he located in San Miguel and established his present tonsorial establishment. He also is owner of a ranch in Vineyard cañon, Monterey county, ten miles northeast of San Miguel, called the Deer Valley Ranch, which contains five hundred twenty acres and is operated with good results as a grain and cattle ranch. With A. Thrall, H. Twisselman

and John Work, he erected the Mission Warehouse with a capacity of 1500 tons; and he is a director of the company. Mr. Sanchez is a prominent man in his town and has made a success of his life work. He is generous, affable and popular.

His first marriage in 1880, in Ventura, united him with Annie Bronty, who died leaving three children: Fred, in Idaho; and Annie, Mrs. Ward, and Jessie, Mrs. Waite, both in Los Angeles. The second marriage, on April 8, 1895, united him with Miss Maime Valdez, daughter of Jose M. and Victoria Price, the latter having been a daughter of John Price, whose interesting sketch will be found elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Sanchez have five children: Alfred, John, Garner, Kenneth and Leola. Mrs. Sanchez is a member and past president of San Miguel Parlor, No. 94, N. D. G. W., and of the Woman's Club; while Mr. Sanchez is past president of San Miguel Parlor, No. 150, N. S. G. W., and a member of the Eagles in San Luis Obispo, and of the I. D. E. S. in San Miguel, and president of the local parlor, and a member of the Druids in Guadalupe. He is a Republican.

**JENKIN REESE.**—One of the old homesteaders in the vicinity of Union and now living retired in Paso Robles is Jenkin Reese. He was born in Aberdair, Wales, March 30, 1847, a son of David J. and Jane (Llewellyn) Reese, natives of that country, where the father was following mining. In 1851, when Jenkin Reese was but four years old, his father came to America and with his family settled in Salt Lake City. He crossed the plains with ox teams, remained in Salt Lake that winter, and then pushed on to the Carson valley, Nevada, where he stopped for one year to engage in mining. The next year he arrived in Solano county, California, located in American cañon, three miles west of Cordelia, purchased seven hundred acres of land, and engaged in grain- and stock-raising, as well as in running a dairy. He continued this line of industry until he retired and moved to Vallejo, where both he and his wife passed away, the father at the age of sixty-nine and the mother fourteen years later, when she was almost eighty years old. Of their nine children, seven grew up and four are now living.

Jenkin Reese is the only member of the family in San Luis Obispo County. He was reared on the farm in Solano county and went to the public schools, and from a lad helped with the work about the ranch and became familiar with stock and dairying, as well as with grain-raising, remaining there with his parents until he was twenty-eight years old. He was married in Suisun City, February 10, 1877, to Miss Emma Wilson, who was born in Springfield, Windsor county, Vt. She was the daughter of Luther and Susan (Aldrich) Wilson, born in Crowns Point, N. Y., and Springfield, Vt., respectively. Her maternal grandparents were of an old New England family. Luther Wilson was a farmer in Vermont, and both parents died there. Mrs. Reese was educated in the public schools and at Springfield Academy. She came to California in 1873 via Panama and landed in San Francisco. In August, 1885, Mr. Reese made a trip by boat from San Francisco to Port Harford, and then took stage to Paso Robles, looking for a location. He selected a homestead of one hundred sixty acres on Dry creek, and returned to Cordelia for his wife; and they took up their residence at the homestead in November, 1885, bringing implements, horses and sixteen head of cattle. Here he raised stock until he broke the land for grain-raising. He erected a frame house and other buildings. Theirs was the first frame house built in that section,

the lumber being hauled from San Luis Obispo. He had to haul water one and one-half miles from Penman springs, until he sunk his well the following spring and put up a windmill—the first in the neighborhood. Mr. Reese pre-empted one hundred sixty acres adjoining his homestead and later bought three hundred twenty acres additional, which he farmed for eight years and then sold, keeping his first three hundred twenty acres, which he still owns and leases. He was progressive and successful in his farming operations, took an active interest in seeing that everything was kept in repair and modern machinery installed as it was needed, and at the same time was interested in the affairs of his neighborhood. He was one of the organizers of the Union school district, a member of the board of trustees and clerk of the first board. He hauled lumber from Port San Luis for the schoolhouse, and with others helped erect the building, with no charge to the district.

Mr. Reese and his wife are parents of three children: Juanita, wife of Charles Reynolds, who is farming on Huntington ranch; Jessie, wife of Al. Birmingham, farming at the home place; and David J., in business in Santa Barbara. Mr. and Mrs. Reese are members of the Methodist Church, and in politics he is a strong Republican. In the fall of 1915, wishing to retire to private life, Mr. Reese bought a lot in Paso Robles, on Vine street, and erected a modern bungalow, and in 1916 leased out his ranch and moved to town to occupy their new home. He is well and favorably known in this part of the county, and has been a liberal supporter of all public movements for the welfare of the general public and the advancement of the county.

**CARL LARSON.**—An artisan of no mean ability and a man who has made his own way in the world since attaining young manhood is Carl Larson, who was born in Karlskoga Bergslag, Orebrolan, Sweden, January 28, 1851. His father, Lars Larson, went to sea when a boy and sailed for many years, although he learned and followed the trade of shoemaker at various times when on land. Carl Larson was reared and educated in the common schools until he was seventeen, then went into the rolling mill and worked for four years. At the age of twenty-one he began the stone-mason's trade and took up the study of architecture, and to perfect himself in his chosen work he went to Stockholm and entered the Sloyd technique school, where he completed a course in architecture. He then worked two years at his trade in the capital city, after which he began contracting and building with Stockholm as his headquarters, erecting large business buildings and residences. He also built seven fire-clay furnaces where they manufactured pig iron, and the furnaces in Egeland's Iron Works in Norway in 1874-5, next spending a year in Denmark as a contractor. He decided to cast in his lot with the United States and arrived in Minneapolis in June, 1881. He was not able to talk English, so he took a place in the lumber yard of a sawmill until his boss learned he was a brick mason and set him at work putting in a boiler in the mill. This he did, laying the foundations and sides from plans furnished him. After the work was completed he had all of that kind of work he could do, and his services were in great demand.

In 1888 he came to California, locating in Templeton, where he erected a building for his residence. At the same time he purchased fifty-four acres of land and improved it, although he lived in town until 1894, when he moved onto his ranch, where he raised grain, fruit, stock and poultry. Mr. Larson has done considerable work in building in Paso Robles, and worked

on the Paso Robles Hot Springs hotel, and the high school, besides many schools in the country. He drew the plans and built the Swedish Lutheran Church in Templeton, as well as several stores and residences.

Carl and Mathilda Larson were married in Minneapolis, Minn., in August, 1886, she being also a native of Sweden. The good woman passed away on February 4, 1913, lamented by many. In October, 1914, Mr. Larson sold the farm and moved into Templeton, where he now lives, retired. In politics he supports the Republican party, and he is a Lutheran in his religious belief. He is deservedly proud of his success, and the people of his community appreciate and esteem him for his general good qualities and worth, while young men of today, preparing themselves for their life work, would do well to emulate his example.

**JOSIAH FREEMAN.**—Texas has produced many men who have become prominent besides the "Texas Rangers," although those pioneer patriots did for Texas what the Vigilance Committee did for California—made it a better place to live in. A prosperous farmer in the vicinity of Paso Robles who was born near Graham, Young county, in the Lone Star State, on September 22, 1886, Joe Freeman, as he is familiarly known, is a worthy son of T. F. Freeman, who first saw the light in Georgia, moved to Texas when a young man and became a prominent cattleman in Young county. He married Miss Susan Brown, also a native of Georgia, who has shared his trials and successes from then until now. In 1905 T. F. Freeman came with his family from Texas to California, first settling at Bradley, and three years later he arrived at Paso Robles, where he bought a ranch of two hundred acres four miles east of the town, which his sons now operate while he is living retired in town.

Of the eight children in this family, Josiah Freeman was the third in order of birth, and from a boy in Texas he rode the range after cattle and farmed, attending the public school in pursuit of an education. In 1903, he went to Globe, Ariz., and led the life of a cowboy there until 1905, when he came to California and settled near Bradley with a "snug" sum of five dollars as his total financial backing. He was able, however, to borrow money, and with a brother, R. D. Freeman, he rented the Fallman place of 1,700 acres and engaged in raising grain and stock combined. Three and one-half years netted him a handsome profit, and he sold his interest to his brother and with his money came and bought a three hundred twenty acre ranch in the vicinity of Paso Robles, which he conducted until 1914, since which time he has rented it to his brother, M. H. Freeman. Going back to Bradley, he again leased land and raised grain and stock, but sold the lease and returned to Paso Robles. Here he rented the Dresser place, which he is operating, having three hundred fifty acres in wheat and barley, and devoting the balance of the eight hundred acres to raising horses, mules and cattle. He has been meeting with very good success, and gives the enterprise his undivided attention.

Mr. Freeman allied himself by marriage with one of the pioneer families of this section when he was united in wedlock to Emma Christensen, daughter of Abraham Christensen (whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work). She was born in Vineyard Cañon, Monterey county, and completed her education in Paso Robles. They have one son, Walter Francis. Politically Mr. Freeman believes in the principles of the Socialist party.

**WILLIAM ORLANDO DRESSER.**—A strain of good old English blood manifesting itself eventually in the most creditable display of American patriotism contributed to bring William Orlando Dresser into prominence in the honored Grand Army of the Republic, and to render him a popular resident of Paso Robles, as he is likewise an enthusiastic advocate of everything making for the progress of San Luis Obispo County. His grandfather was a linen draper of London, and in the great world's metropolis his father, William Dresser, was born and educated, receiving instruction particularly in the field of astronomy. William Dresser was among the early lecturers on the wonders of the solar system, appearing in public both in England and in America. His education included technical training, also, in the art of the photographer, and this enabled him to make his own lantern slides and to devise the most unique and instructive kind of platform entertainment. Three fires having affected the family's fortunes, he came to the United States and in Illinois tried his hand as a farmer, plying his trade as a photographer, and now and then lecturing to audiences on astronomy.

In 1850, he crossed the plains, using pack horses and saddles, and for four years sought to improve his fortunes at the mines in Hangtown, and in Jackson, Amador county. In 1854, he returned to the East by way of Panama; but the desire to return to California possessed him; and in November, 1860, he arrived at Sacramento, with his family, after another arduous trip across the plains. He and his party had left Rockford, Ill., in the fall of 1859, driving their horses and wagons as far as the Pawnee river, Fort Scott, Kan., where they wintered until the following spring. They then started in reality to cross the plains, using oxen and cows to draw their wagons, outfitting once or twice between the Republican river and the Platte, when they lost part of their equipment. At length they struck the overland trail, and arriving in the Golden State, settled in Yolo county. The elder Dresser took up and improved government lands; and at the same time, with the aid of his magic lantern, he lectured on his favorite theme, the stars. He later went to Tulare county, and there acquired some land, which he worked until he retired to Santa Ana, where he died. William's mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Jenks, and who was an Ohioan by birth, died in Illinois in 1854.

William O. Dresser was born at Beloit, Wis., on May 11, 1847, and attended school near Rockford, Ill., and at other places as the family moved west and after they had reached Yolo county, for the lad was but thirteen when he crossed the wide Continent. The other four children in the family were: Albert, who lives in Santa Ana; Charles, who resides in Hollywood; Julia, now Mrs. Dunning, of Ceres; and Emma, who became Mrs. Baxter, and is now deceased. On his way across the plains, William O. Dresser, boy though he was, drove the ox teams for weeks, his part in the labor comparing well with that of his elders.

In California, he remained at home with his father until he was twenty-one, and in 1879 he went to Stanislaus county, where he located near Modesto, farming to grain and alfalfa and running a first-class dairy. The latter he sold and then moved to Merced county, where he purchased a ranch near Snelling and engaged in raising grain and stock. His next removal was in 1882, when he purchased part of the Eureka ranch on the Huer-Huero, four miles from Paso Robles. This he did not take personal possession of at once, but for a while rented it to others. He made a practice of renting some of

his property, and even now has some three thousand acres let out. On one of his properties he had the first flowing well; and this he made the most of, coupling with it many other improvements. The brick house built there was the original Linne post office, although that has now been moved across the hill. For many years he has been a stockholder, director and vice-president of the Citizens Bank of Paso Robles. In the middle of the eighties, Mr. Dresser moved to Modesto, and there he remained for seven years.

In 1894, he bought his residence on Spring street in Paso Robles, and there he has resided since. With him are his family, enjoying the comfortable and attractive home. On September 21, 1875, at Florin, in Sacramento county, he had married Miss Mary M. Rickey, a native of Gallia county, Ohio. Her father was Brice Rickey, who married Ellen Wright, a Pennsylvanian, who came to Brown county, Ill. From there Miss Rickey migrated with her parents in 1870 to Florin, where she lived until she was married. Seven children were born of this union, six of whom are still living. Dr. Ralph O. Dresser, a graduate of the University of California, practices medicine in Paso Robles; Miss Bertha Dresser is a trained nurse at the Fairmount Hospital, in San Francisco; Nellie, Mrs. Clarence Brewster, is a graduate nurse and resides in Portland, Ore.; William Rollo Dresser assists his father on the ranch; Ruby has become Mrs. Frank Cummings, of Rexall Heights, Paso Robles; Sadie is now Mrs. Roy Warden, of the same town; while Irvin was accidentally killed on a hunting trip when nineteen years old.

For ten years, from 1896 to 1906, Mr. Dresser was a member of the Board of Education, and also clerk of the board, and for the same period he was city trustee, ceasing his connection only when he insisted on resigning. Mr. Dresser was formerly a staunch Democrat, but is now an Independent. He was for many years a member of Grant Post No. 9, G. A. R., Modesto, of which he is Past Post Commander. During the Civil War, William O. Dresser, when only seventeen years of age, volunteered under the Union flag, and joined the 4th California Volunteer Infantry Regiment, but he was disappointed in his ambition to see service on the firing line against the Confederates, for the Government sent his regiment into Northern California to fight the Indians. Mr. and Mrs. Dresser are a delightful couple, with whom it is a pleasure to meet.

Since this biography was written his family have been bereaved of Mr. Dresser, who passed away on Sunday evening, October 29, 1916, loved, esteemed and mourned by his dear ones and all who knew him.

**HERBERT E. LEISY.**—Among the rising young men who are showing themselves industrious and capable in whatever line of business they have entered, we find Herbert E. Leisy, a man of native ability, tact and energy. He was born at Donelson, Lee county, Ia., October 24, 1890, the son of a native of the German Fatherland, Abraham Leisy, whose wife was Elizabeth Gram. Both were farmers in Iowa, and now reside, retired, at Paso Robles.

The youngest of five children, Herbert was reared in Iowa, attended the public schools there, and came to Paso Robles first in the fall of 1912, when he entered the employ of the Paso Robles Mercantile Co., taking a clerkship in their grocery department. On March 1, 1914, he resigned to engage in the wholesale and retail handling of grain, flour, feed, hay and fuel. Not many months elapsed before the enterprise was integrated as *Leisy & Co.*

were widely and well recognized; the Paso Robles feed store on Park street, near Twelfth and Central, of which he was manager, becoming the headquarters for farmers' and gardeners' needs and, as the largest business of its kind in this vicinity, affording an exceptional variety and selection. He continued in management of that business until January 1, 1917, when he disposed of his interest to his partner and accepted a position with Bryan's Express Co., in charge of their automobile truck.

Independent in politics, Mr. Leisy is a man who does his own thinking and votes according to his own ideas. He is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, enthusiastically supporting progressive measures.

**FRANK PERINONI.**—The dairy industry has been followed with a great deal of success in San Luis Obispo County, and great credit should be given those men of foreign birth who have devoted their active lives towards building up that industry from its infancy. To no one is more credit due than to Frank Perinoni of Cayucos, for he has followed that line of activity ever since he landed in California.

He was born at Someo, canton Ticino, Switzerland, April 3, 1848, and attended the public schools of his native district until he was fourteen years old. He assisted his parents on their home place until seventeen years of age, and then embarked for the United States with California as his goal. Arrived here, he went at once to Marin county, in April, 1865. He could not speak the English language, nor did he know how business was carried on in his new home; but with perseverance he set to work for his brother James, who had come some time before, and was engaged in the dairy business and offered him wages. He worked for various people until 1870, when he received an offer to drive three hundred head of cattle to San Luis Obispo County. This he accepted, and it took about twenty days to make the trip to San Simeon. He was pleased with the country, decided to remain and soon found employment with a dairyman. He did not remain long there, however, but taking his savings engaged in dairying with a partner at Guadalupe, they being the first Swiss to embark in the business at that place. They milked about one hundred cows and continued there three years. After this he sold out and located at Cambria, and two years later, in 1875, moved to Cayucos.

For one year Mr. Perinoni worked for Peter Tognazzini, and in 1877 went to Morro, where he once more took up the business for himself on leased land. In 1882 he bought his first piece of land at Guadalupe, where he had gone at an earlier period. This property consisted of seven hundred fifty-three acres, well adapted to dairying. For twenty-two years he remained a resident of that section, and acquired considerable means. He felt it a duty he owed his parents to visit them again, and so he sold out and made a third trip to his native land.

On his return to California, he located near Newman, Stanislaus county, purchasing one hundred fifty-three acres of fine land, and there he raised alfalfa and conducted a dairy for two years, building up a fine property, which he then sold to good advantage. Thereupon he returned to Cayucos, where he rented eight hundred acres; but he later sold out and went to a ranch near Modesto, which he leased for four months. In 1913 he again returned to San Luis Obispo County and located in Cayucos, where he has since lived, retired, enjoying the fruits of his labor. In 1909 he erected a

Dr. Giovanni  
Caldorata Giovanni







two-story concrete store building in Cayucos, now occupied as a general merchandise store by his son-in-law, Ellis Tomasini, who is also the postmaster.

Mr. Perinoni was united in marriage in San Luis Obispo County, March 13, 1882, with Miss Addolorata Giovanotti, who was born October 3, 1863, in Civio, Switzerland, and who came to this county in 1881. Of this union five children have been born. Flora resides with her parents; Savina, Mrs. Valente Guerra, and Sila, Mrs. Ellis Tomasini, are both living in Cayucos; Mark and Frank are both deceased. To his children he has given educational advantages and a good start in life. From this résumé of his life, it will be seen that he started with nothing, and was handicapped by not being able to speak English; but that by hard work and good business management and honest dealings, he has won deserved success. Mr. Perinoni has never cared for politics, but votes the Republican ticket at national elections, although for local offices he supports the man he considers best qualified to fill the position. He is a member of the U. A. O. D.

**ARTHUR C. CHURCHILL.**—A native son of California with the true western spirit of hospitality inherited from his pioneer parents, Arthur C. Churchill has won a place for himself in the business life of San Luis Obispo County as agent for the S. P. Milling company at Templeton. He was born in Watsonville, March 15, 1884, a son of Charles C. and Ellen (Gorham) Churchill, natives of Morristown, Vt., and Walnut Creek, Cal., respectively. The former, a blacksmith by trade, enlisted for service in the Civil War, but was rejected on account of his youth, he being then but fifteen. In 1871 he came to California and, locating at Walnut Creek, Contra Costa county, followed his trade until 1875, when he took up his residence in Watsonville and started a shop which in time grew to be the largest blacksmithing forge in the city, and where he carried on his trade for thirty years, until he sold out in 1905 and moved to San Jose. His wife was a daughter of William Gorham, a native of Illinois, who crossed the plains to this state in 1856. On the maternal side, Mr. Churchill is connected with the Allens. His grandmother, Melissa Allen, started across the plains with her parents in 1846; her father died on the Platte river, when she was ten years old, but her mother finished the trip to this state with her small children and settled in Walnut Creek, where she married Judge Elam Brown in that same year. Mr. and Mrs. Gorham died in Watsonville.

The youngest of the two children born to his parents, A. C. Churchill grew up in Watsonville, attended the public and high schools, graduating in 1902 from the San Jose high school, and then entered the Pacific Coast Business College at San Jose, from which he graduated in 1903. He next secured a position with the First National Bank for a short time, and later with J. H. Flickinger Co. In 1904 he entered the employ of the S. P. Milling Company as utility man, and in 1909 was made agent at this place, which position he has filled with efficiency since June 20, 1909.

Mr. Churchill was married in Santa Barbara to Emma F. Dosey, who was born in San Jose, and their four children are Stanley, Kenneth, Raymond and Lillian. Mr. Churchill is financial secretary of the local Board of Trade, is fire commissioner for Templeton district, is a prominent member of the I. O. O. F., and politically is a Republican. He is a self-made man, genial, free-hearted and successful, and has many friends.

**GRACIANO CASTILLO.**—How intimately the threads of California's history are interwoven with the social and political fabric of historic and romantic old Spain is well illustrated in the biography of such families as that of Graciano Castillo, who is proud of his American citizenship and also proud that Spanish blood flows in his veins. Grandfather Castillo was born in the famous town of Castile, Spain, and settled in Mexico. His son, Juan Castillo, was born in Mexico and came to California in very early days. Soon after arriving on the northern coast he settled near Avila beach, where he took up a farm which he held until he died. About the same time he married, at Los Angeles, Gargonia Ocaño, who was also a native of Mexico. A family of sixteen children resulted, two of whom are still living, and Graciano was the second eldest. He was brought up on his father's farm and educated at the public schools; but when he had reached the age of twelve he began to work for the P. C. Railway running between San Luis Obispo and Port Harford. He was their water boy, and continued in this work for one year, after which for three years he was in the service of the steamship company at their Port Harford wharf, where better pay and more agreeable labor attracted him. When he quit he bought an acre of land at Avila beach, near the spot where he was born on June 1, 1865; and there built and entered into business for himself. When he sold out, he removed to Paso Robles and engaged in the wholesale liquor trade. The confinement of the place, however, was not favorable to his health, and once more he disposed of what he had and changed his mode of living.

On April 1, 1890, at San Luis Obispo, Mr. Castillo was united in marriage with Mrs. Lottie Margaret (Gillikin) Marshall, who was born in Placerville, Cal. She was the daughter of Andrew J. Gillikin, who was sent out to California as an official, and came across the plains in an ox-team train in 1847. He was born in Charleston, South Carolina, and was of Scotch descent. He was interested in the famous Comstock Mine, in the days of Mackay, Flood and O'Brien, and was a friend of the late "Lucky" Baldwin. Her father thus made and lost large fortunes, although he was a wealthy man at the time of his death in Portland on November 28, 1879. Her mother was Margaret J. Hanson, who was born in Maine on June 14, 1829, a daughter of Captain Paul Hanson, and came to San Francisco by way of the Isthmus of Panama in 1852. Before her marriage, Mrs. Castillo was educated in different parts of the United States and on the coast, in Saint Helen's Hall at Portland, and also in convents. One child resulted from the present union—Margarita Rose. Mrs. Castillo talks of her travels of four years throughout the United States, and is well posted on the geography of the country. In 1898, Mr. and Mrs. Castillo moved to Santa Margarita, where he established a business which he continued for sixteen years. Here he built himself an attractive modern residence. In his spare time he superintends certain properties in various parts of the State. He owns, for example, the business building occupied by the local postoffice, and in addition he has a hundred twenty acres two miles east of the town which he devotes to farming. Then there is a corner lot in San Francisco such as anyone would be glad to have the title to, and some property in San Diego county, which will doubtless also become valuable. A Republican in politics, Mr. Castillo is an active citizen ready to boost any good local project having the endorsement of his fellow-citizens.

**FRANK E. FOTHERINGHAM.**—Come what may, no one will ever usurp the position among Californians of the Native Son, and a Californian of whom Santa Margarita is proud is Frank E. Fotheringham, who was born at Sutter Creek, Amador county, on March 11, 1861. His father was Dr. George Fotheringham, a native of Edinburgh, Scotland, where he was educated for the medical profession. The name, which belongs to an old English family, was originally Fotheringay, and it was changed by Dr. Fotheringham on his coming to America. Dr. Fotheringham settled in Dupage county, Ill., and there practiced medicine until 1850, when he crossed the plains to California. He had with him his wife and two children when the ox-train was attacked by Indians, but very luckily all escaped.

Arriving at Hangtown, he started mining; but when it was discovered that he had brought with him his medicine case, he was so often called, and at such fees, that he gave up the thought of digging for gold and resumed his practice. Later he located at Sacramento, and there became a leading physician and surgeon. When he retired, he settled in San Francisco. He died in the bay city at the age of seventy-five years. His wife was Miss Ruth Jaynes, who was born in Illinois, and died in San Francisco.

Four of the six children born to Dr. and Mrs. Fotheringham survived, and among these was the subject of this review, who attended the public schools of Sacramento and the high school of San Francisco. Later he came to La Panza, San Luis Obispo County, when that section was a great cattle and sheep range. He went to work to learn the cattle business on the ranch of his brother-in-law, J. M. Jones, who owned twenty-five thousand acres or more of land, remaining with him as foreman until he was thirty years of age. Subsequently, he was superintendent of the ranch of Schoenfeld & Jones, who combined two great ranches, the Carissa and the La Panza, including quite forty-five thousand acres; and as the no-fence law then came into effect, Frank had a big job on his hands, bringing the necessary wire from San Luis Obispo, and completing the fence within six months. In 1897, he began leasing different ranches to tenants, but this was only for two years; at the end of that time it was thought advisable to turn them back into ranges for cattle.

Since 1886, he has had a large experience in raising herds of cattle, shipping in feeders from Arizona and Mexico by the train load, to be turned out a year later fat and fit, and bringing his Durham and Hereford breeds to the highest standard possible. Not by any means have these things been accomplished without privation and considerable risk; and if ever you succeed in getting Mr. Fotheringham to tell about the early days, you will hear some good stories in which his friends, the coyotes, the grizzlies, the California lions and the mountain deer play their parts. His first trip to Los Angeles, which was then a city of only about 12,000 people, was made in 1883, when he was compelled to chase some horse thieves who had made depredations on his stock.

In 1916, Frank Fotheringham resigned his position and removed to Santa Margarita, and built there the comfortable residence in which he now passes his days more leisurely, looking after his varied interests in San Luis Obispo County and in Los Angeles, in which city he has made considerable investments on account of its wonderful growth. Mr. Fotheringham was married in San Francisco to Miss Maud Meredith, of the northern metropolis, and he has

of late given himself up somewhat more freely to social life. He is a member of the San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 422, B. P. O. E., and of the Los Osos Parlor of the Native Sons of the Golden West. As a Democrat he has served as a member of the County Central Committee.

**VINCENT ROSSI.**—One of the prosperous citizens of San Luis Obispo County and a man who has made his own way in the world, Vincent Rossi was born in Peccia, canton Ticino, Switzerland, on September 23, 1866. He attended the public schools until he was fourteen years of age, and then devoted his time to farm work, assisting his father, who ran a dairy and raised sheep and goats. This work did not offer much advancement, and on talking with a friend who had spent some time in America and was back on a visit to his old home, young Rossi heard such glowing accounts of the advantages offered on the Pacific Coast to young men of energy and ambition that he decided to venture into the Western country and see what he could do.

He came direct to California, arriving in 1886, and worked for a short time on a ranch near Duncans Mills, Sonoma county, after which he came to San Luis Obispo county, where he has since made his home. He first worked on the Jack ranch for one year, and then, during two years, for Nicola Tonini, and saved enough money to start for himself. He rented three hundred acres near Morro, bought stock and commenced on a small scale, gradually increasing his stock during the five years that he remained there. He then sold out and moved to the Serrano place, where he continued the dairy business for eleven years. This has been his chosen occupation, and from the start with thirty-five cows, he has increased his dairy to three hundred and conducts a successful dairy and stock-raising industry on 2000 acres of the R. E. Jack ranch, with about 1000 acres of the Fairbanks ranch. He also raises about two hundred head of hogs, and enough grain and hay for his stock.

On February 8, 1891, Mr. Rossi was united in marriage with Miss Angelina Coradi, who was born in Trento, Tyrol, Austria, in 1868, and came to California in 1890. They have five children: Gregory, Vincent, Armando, Catherina and May, all natives of this county. The three oldest boys attend the State Polytechnic at San Luis Obispo.

At one time Mr. Rossi owned and operated the Alta Creamery, but after five years, competition became so keen that he gave it up. Since becoming a citizen of the United States, he has voted the Republican ticket. He is serving as trustee of Hope school district, where, for the first three years, he was clerk of the board. He is recognized as a generous, open-hearted and enterprising man.

**PAUL PFISTER.**—A native son of California, Paul Pfister was born in Napa county, February 11, 1865, a member of a well known family, whose detailed story will be found in the sketch of Al Pfister on another page of this work. In 1868 he was brought by his parents to Pinole, Contra Costa county, where he attended the public schools. When he was seventeen, his father purchased a farm near Dixon, Solano county, and thither he removed with other members of the family, and was there employed in grain farming.

His brother, Al Pfister, came to San Luis Obispo County in 1888, and in the fall of 1891 Paul joined him, and they purchased a ranch at Union and engaged in raising grain. They acquired a property of nine hundred





sixty acres, leased other land and farmed on a large scale, meeting with the usual success that attends close application to business. In 1899 he was elected supervisor from the first supervisorial district in this county, and then he moved into Paso Robles. He filled the office two terms and gave his attention to the wants of his constituents. He became interested in the Citizens Bank and was on the directorate and served as assistant cashier, a position he was selected to fill in 1908, and which he continued to hold for four years.

He bought a ranch on the Salinas river, put twenty acres in alfalfa, sunk wells (one of them to a depth of three hundred forty feet) and secured a good flow of Artesian water, this being the first flowing well in this section; but two years later he sold out and moved to Glendora, Los Angeles county, where he purchased thirty acres of land and set out eighteen acres in Valencia oranges and twelve acres in lemons. He lived in the southern part of the state for a while, and on his return to Paso Robles he entered the Citizens Bank as assistant cashier.

In Paso Robles he was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Dwyer, who was born in San Francisco. They have four children—Joseph, John, Elizabeth and Catherine. Mr. Pfister is a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 322, B. P. O. Elks. In politics he is a Democrat. He is a man who believes in supporting men and measures for the betterment of the general conditions of the town, county and state.

**MAX VON DOLLEN.**—It can in truth be said of Max von Dollen that he is a hustler, and a successful one at that. He comes of an old family in Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, where he was born on February 27, 1880. His father was John H. von Dollen, a brother of Martin E. E. von Dollen, represented elsewhere in this work. His father married Caroline Martensen, who was born in the same vicinity as he, of an old Danish family.

John H. von Dollen brought his family to California in 1886 and, after two years at Half Moon Bay, came to Keys cañon in 1888 and located on a homestead of one hundred sixty acres, on the Monterey and San Luis Obispo County line. As he prospered, he bought more land until, at the time of his death, on February 15, 1917, he had acquired four hundred eighty acres. The mother now resides with her son, Max, and presides over his home. The children born to this worthy old couple are: Max, of this review; Henry and John, farmers in Keys cañon; Fred, who was accidentally killed, on being thrown from a horse, at the age of nineteen; Carrie (Mrs. Johnson), of Keys cañon; Elsie (Mrs. Brunson), who resides in Arizona; Annie, who died when five years old; and Emma, who resides with her mother and brother Max.

The schools of the Ellis district furnished the advantages for Max's education, and from a lad he displayed marked energy for work, applying himself industriously to help his parents gain a foothold and a competency. He learned the care of stock, and how to drive the big teams in the grain fields.

In 1906 he began farming on his own account, leasing a ranch in Keys cañon; and while operating it he purchased a half section of grazing land in the vicinity. In prospecting for water, he was fortunate in striking a spring, obtaining an ample supply for his stock, and thus increasing the value of the land very materially. The land adjoins the old place of his parents, which he also manages.



Mr. J. A. von Dollen leased his present place of eight hundred acres in Hog cañon, San Luis Obispo County. The place where he now lives was originally homesteaded and improved by his uncle, M. E. E. von Dollen. After leasing it four years, he purchased the place, knowing full well the value of the land as a speculation during these years of rapid rise in land values. It is a most excellent grain and stock ranch, the soil and climate being well adapted for the purpose. It also shows strong indications of oil in seepage, gas pressure, and shells, and will undoubtedly some day be developed for that purpose.

About four hundred acres of this property is under the plow, two hundred acres of which is each year sown to grain. The balance is devoted to cattle-raising, and he has a fine strain of cattle on his ranch. He also owns another ranch of three hundred twenty acres at the head of Keys cañon.

The great work of providing good schools for the rising generation receives his encouragement and hearty co-operation, and he has consented to serve as a member of the board of trustees of Keys cañon school district.

Liberal, open-hearted and hospitable, Mr. von Dollen occupies a very prominent place in the community, where he is highly esteemed and decidedly popular.

**NIELS G. MADSEN.**—Through his connection with various important interests, Niels G. Madsen is well known to the people of San Luis Obispo County, and particularly to the residents in the section about Paso Robles, where he has made his home since 1884. He was born in Ballum, Schleswig, Germany, January 10, 1867, a son of Jorgen F. Madsen, also a native of that vicinity, who was a maker of shoes and served in the Danish army in the War of 1864. Jorgen Madsen was a Lutheran and died near his birthplace. His wife, Christiana Thygesen, was born in the same town. She was a daughter of Matthias Thygesen, a sailor. She is living in Ballum and was the mother of seven children, five of whom are alive. The children are: Maria, Mrs. Nielsen of Rio Vista; Christene, Mrs. Hansen, in Schleswig; Tillie, who lives in Auburn, Cal.; Hans, in Schleswig; Martin, who died here; Inga C., who died in Schleswig; and the oldest of the family, Niels G., the subject of this review. He was brought up in Ballum, attended the public schools, and worked on a farm and at odd jobs from boyhood; but on account of militarism in his home country, he came to the United States at the age of seventeen, in 1884, making direct for San Francisco and, in May of that year, for Rio Vista, where he had an aunt living. He was employed at various occupations in that locality for three years, when he went to San Francisco and found work in a tea and coffee house on Market street, where he remained a year. He spent the following summer in Rio Vista, and then returned to San Francisco to work as a waiter in a cafe run by Hans Ravn.

We next find Mr. Madsen in the vicinity of Salinas working in the harvest field for the season, and then back in the cafe in San Francisco. In 1893 he came to San Luis Obispo County, and in the vicinity of Union district rented land from the Estrella ranch and put in a crop of grain. He remained there five years and met with fair results, having three good crops out of the five, the others being failures on account of dry years. In 1899, he bought his present ranch of three hundred twenty acres and has been successfully engaged in raising grain, particularly the blue stem wheat. He has had a great deal of hard work to do to overcome the many obstacles that confronted him in the

development of his ranch; but he has persevered, and now has a very valuable place all acquired through his own efforts and with the aid of his good wife.

On March 8, 1906, in Petaluma, Cal., occurred the marriage of Niels G. Madsen with Mrs. Augusta (Wigerth) Franzen, a native of Falun, Dalene, Sweden. Her father was Carl Wigerth, a painter by trade, hailing from Dalene, and his wife was Sarah Selberg. They had eight children in their family, and four of them grew up. Mrs. Madsen and one sister, Mrs. Otto Olsen of Birds Landing, Solano county, are the only members of the family in America. Mrs. Madsen was educated in the public schools and at a well-known ladies' academy, and for some years was engaged in teaching school in her native land. She married Franz O. Franzen, born in Orebro, Naerke, Sweden, who was a student in the theological seminary in Orebro. He died, however, before his ordination. They had one child, Joseph, who has farmed on the Estrella ranch, and who married Miss Sadie Heavey; and their home is blessed by two children, Niels Joseph and Kenneth James, the pride of their grandparents. In 1890, Mrs. Madsen came to Solano county, although she made her home principally in San Francisco until her second marriage.

Mr. Madsen is a member of Dania Lodge, No. 2, in San Francisco; of Santa Lucia Lodge, No. 350, I. O. O. F., of Paso Robles, and of the Encampment. For many years he has been a director in the Farmers' Alliance Business Association, organized for the purpose of erecting the large warehouse in Paso Robles which has been of such great benefit to the farmers, and since 1914 has served as president of the same. He is a member of the Lutheran Church and is a self-made man in every sense of the word, and has a host of friends who respect him for his integrity and strict business methods.

**ARCHIBALD GILLIS.**—Among the grain growers and stockmen in the vicinity of Paso Robles who are enterprising and successful is the rancher Archibald Gillis, born in Antigonish county, Nova Scotia, in September, 1863. His grandfather, John Gillis, was a Scottish Highlander, who settled in Nova Scotia. His father, Angus Gillis, was therefore born a Nova Scotian, and by reason of his environment grew up not only a farmer and a lumberman, but a fisherman sailing his smack in St. Lawrence Bay. His mother, Catherine Gillis, was of Scotch descent. Both are deceased, the father dying there thirty-four years ago; while of nine children born, seven are living, of whom Archibald is the youngest and the only one on the Pacific Coast.

Archibald Gillis worked on a farm and at lumbering, and also as a ship carpenter, until 1884, when he came West to work for the Canadian Pacific Railroad Co. back of Lake Superior. April, the following year, found him in Portland and Victoria, and in May he came to San Francisco, the first of his family to visit California. He worked in that city as a carpenter, and the following year took up farming near Dixon, Solano county, where he used an eight-horse team and continued for two years. In 1888, he came to San Luis Obispo County, and farmed for grain on the Santa Ysabel ranch, two miles northeast of Paso Robles. He also rented for a while certain land from the Huntington ranch.

Having been successful in his operations and accumulated some means, he purchased the present place of three hundred twenty acres, in 1892. It is located about four and one-half miles southeast of Paso Robles, and on it he

has made improvements so that it has become a valuable property. He has succeeded by wise management and judicious renting. He now farms about six hundred acres, making use of two large teams, and sowing as much as three hundred fifty acres of grain a year, principally wheat. The finest stock, both horses and cattle, is kept on his ranch, and a small orchard further adds to its attraction.

Mr. Gillis is a member of the Roman Catholic Church in Paso Robles. He has a wide acquaintance throughout this section of the county, where he is highly esteemed for his integrity and worth, and where his word is as good as his bond.

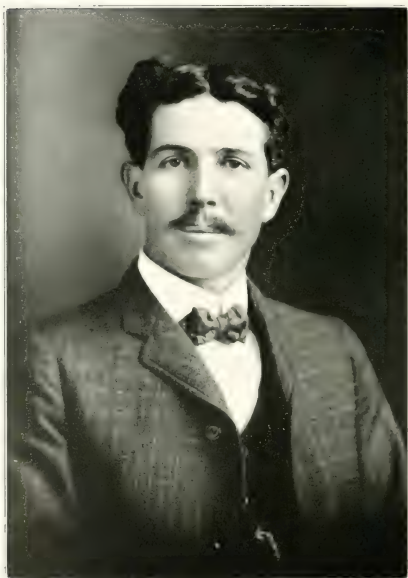
**FRANK NUNEZ.**—It is no wonder that all of his friends, as well as Frank Nunez himself, are very proud of his being a successful cattleman, and of having provided for himself a handsome competency, for Frank understands the cattle business from A to Z, and has known more or less of it ever since he was a lad of fifteen. Way back on October 14, 1859, he was born in old Sonora, Mexico, whither his father, Augustine Nunez, had come from Spain. His father was educated for the Bar, and having migrated to Mexico, was a practicing attorney in the town of Frank's birth. He stood high there, and was more than successful; but one evil day he became a sympathizer with Maximilian, and when that unfortunate adventurer fell, Augustine Nunez had to flee the country.

In 1868, he came to the United States and brought his family to San Luis Obispo County. While Frank was still very young his mother died, and then he lived with a sister, going to school but three or four months. By 1874 he had entered the employ of R. C. Flint, the great ranchman, and two years later was in the responsible position of foreman, having in charge two ranches forty-five miles apart and lying seventy-five miles south of Campo on the international border. For a hundred miles he roamed over the cattle ranges branding the stock, and he remained in charge of the herds until he delivered the last bunch of cattle in Mexico in 1881. In those days buyers wanted fat cattle, and there was no call for feeders; there was a round-up in May or June, so much was paid per head, and that was all there was to it. When he resigned, he was four hundred dollars in debt, to balance which he gave his note; and this was paid in 1886—to the Flint estate, the ranchman being dead—although the note was already outlawed. In 1882, we find Frank Nunez in Los Angeles, where he remained for eighteen months, and then he made for Bakersfield, assisting Tom Briggs at different times in the cattle business.

From the spring of 1886, he was again foreman for the R. C. Flint estate of the San Juan Ranch, in San Luis Obispo County, and later foreman of the Nacimiento Ranch, for the same estate, from which he resigned in the fall of 1891. He then went into the cattle department of Miller & Lux, at New Columbia, in the San Joaquin valley, but at the end of nine months he gave that up to go into the cattle business for himself on Carissa Plains, his brother-in-law, J. Garcia, being in charge of the stock. In 1893 he was again induced by R. C. Flint, Jr., to take charge of the San Juan Ranch, as foreman, and continued ably to fill that position until 1896, when he resigned to look after his own stock business.

He then began buying different ranches, watering-places and grazing grounds, and rented some large ranges, starting with three hundred head of





Frank Tear

cattle; and soon he had made his brand, F-N, mean something worth while on the market. He sold out in 1909, and seeing an opportunity for a quick turn of money, he took a trip to Sonora, Mexico, and there bought a train load of steers and shipped them north to this county, where he trebled his money. The same year he built a livery stable and engaged in the livery business at Santa Margarita; but finding that it was not what he wanted, he disposed of it.

He sold some of his lands, and built himself a residence in Santa Margarita, the most modern and beautiful residence in the place, where he owns other valuable property. Some years ago, at San Luis Obispo, Frank Nunez married Miss Frances Garcia, who was born and reared in this county. A public-spirited Republican, Mr. Nunez has also served in the past as trustee of Simmler School District, thereby showing his interest in the cause of education.

**FRANK VEAR.**—A strong, healthy and active native son, who is becoming well-to-do and yet who, in his increasing prosperity, maintains the goodwill and esteem of all his fellow-citizens, is Frank Vear, a rancher and bean grower, and a son of the late Joseph Vear, an early California settler who came from the Azores islands. He was a sailor, going to sea when but ten years old on the whaler "Jeanette," and for seven years was on that boat in the Pacific and Arctic waters. He finally left the sea and located in Monterey county, where he engaged in ranching and where he was united in marriage at Castroville, in 1873, with Miss Mary English, who was born in Ireland, brought to America when she was a child, and reared in Philadelphia, where two brothers now reside. She left that city for San Francisco when a young lady, and since that time has made this state her home.

In the dry year, 1887, Joseph Vear moved from Monterey county to Lompoc, Santa Barbara county; and the following year, compelled by the necessity of his starving cattle, he sold out his dairy herd and bought forty acres on the Oso Flaco, where he engaged in farming. He added to his holdings as he succeeded, and in time owned one hundred eighty-three acres. He also owned a ranch of one hundred fifty acres two miles south of San Luis Obispo, where he was living at the time of his death in 1910. His widow now resides with her daughter, Mrs. M. F. Lima, near Edna.

The second eldest of six children, of whom but three are still living—the subject of our sketch, Mrs. Lima, and Matthew, a farmer residing near San Luis Obispo—Frank Vear was born on the Oso Flaco, February 2, 1881, and began at eight years of age to help with the work on his father's farm, driving horses and later plowing with a four-horse team. He attended public schools in the Oso Flaco and the Nipomo school districts, and afterwards pursued, with much credit, a commercial course at the well-known Chestnutwood Business College at Santa Cruz; but for the greater part of his life, he has engaged in farming, as a result of which he is today one of the best-posted men on agriculture in the Oso Flaco region.

At San Luis Obispo, June 5, 1907, Frank Vear was united in marriage with Miss Mary Gertrude Cole, a native of Philadelphia, where she was educated. Her parents were Arthur and Bridget (Leonard) Cole, the latter dying in Philadelphia. The father came to San Luis Obispo County from Philadelphia, where he had been employed as a machinist, and here took up cattle-raising and the dairy business in the Los Osos valley; and it was here

that his daughter joined him later on. Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Vear, three children have been born, Mary E., Joseph Thomas, and Arthur Francis.

Employing three men steadily, and extra help at the harvest time, Mr. Vear in 1916 raised on his two large ranches in the Santa Maria valley a hundred tons of hay and three thousand sacks of beans, worth in the neighborhood of thirty thousand dollars. He keeps about thirty-six work horses and, in addition, some seventy head of colts and mares. One of these ranches consists of three hundred eighty acres on the Le Roy tract, two and a half miles west of Santa Maria, in Santa Barbara county, while another farm is made up of a hundred eighty-three acres on the Oso Flaco. This farm really belongs to the Joseph Vear estate, and was willed by the elder Vear to his wife; there Frank resides with his wife and family in a modest, but pretty home, made exceedingly attractive by lawns, cypress trees and well-cultivated gardens.

Quiet and reserved by nature, Mrs. Vear is a worthy companion to her tactful and courteous husband; and both are esteemed and valuable members of the Catholic Church, as well as of the board of trustees of the Cuyama school district. Mr. Vear is a Woodman of the World, has long been identified with the Loyal Order of Moose at Santa Maria, and is a staunch Democrat high in Democratic counsels.

**ROBERT LUCIAN PERRY.**—Through his connection with various important interests, Robert L. Perry is well known to the people of San Luis Obispo County, and particularly to the residents of San Miguel, where he has made his home since 1896, settling here in the spring of that year. He was born in Keokuk county, Ia., on September 14, 1857, and raised in Fairfield, Jefferson county. His father, Jacob Perry, was a native of Ohio and came to Iowa in 1854, settling on a farm in Keokuk county, where he was married to Elizabeth Vastine, also an Ohioan. She died in 1859, and in 1862 the family removed to Jefferson county, where the father died on his farm.

The youngest of the two children, and the only one living, R. L. Perry was deprived of a mother's care when he was a babe of eighteen months, and was brought up and educated in Jefferson county. He remained on the farm until 1878, when he went to Hitchcock county, Neb., and homesteaded one hundred sixty acres adjoining Culbertson, the county seat, improved the place and made it his home. In 1880 he went back to Iowa; and at Fairfield, on February 26 of that year, he was married to Ellen Brown, also a native of Iowa, returning with his bride to his farm in Nebraska.

He clerked in a store for a time and then was appointed to fill a vacancy as county clerk, after which he was elected to the office and was ex-officio clerk of the court and recorder. He was re-elected and served five years. During this time he compiled a set of abstract books. He was engaged in the abstract title and real estate business with success, until he came to California in 1894, when he located in Santa Rosa.

In 1896 Mr. Perry located in San Miguel and engaged in the mercantile business. Elected Justice of the Peace, he served until he was appointed, by President Taft, postmaster of San Miguel, in which office he continued until the change of administration, when he was again elected Justice of the Peace in 1914 of San Miguel township, a post of responsibility which he fills at this time. He is also a notary, and does conveyancing. He owns his

home and the ten-acre tract adjoining the town, and is a member of the Methodist Church and a true blue Republican. He and his wife have four children: Mildred C., Mrs. Flentge of Parkfield district; Lucian M., in Coalinga; Ruth, at home; and Dewey, who was born May 1, 1898, the same day Dewey took Manila. This son is now in the coast artillery and stationed at Honolulu.

**ROSS REYNOLDS.**—A comparatively young farmer who takes pride in the science of agriculture, and who, year by year, has steadily advanced in his mastery of the soil, is Ross Reynolds, who was born at his father's old home on the Huer-Huero, three miles east of Paso Robles, on January 4, 1878, the second eldest child in the family. His father is Dwight Reynolds, a fine old gentleman, very properly represented elsewhere in this work.

Ross was brought up on the farm and educated in the public schools in the county of his birth, and helped his father until he was of age, when, for a year, he rented and operated the well-known Dresser place. After that, he leased the eleven hundred acres known as the Shackelford place, planting much of it to grain, and taking care for Mr. Shackelford of his orchards. He grubbed out nearly everything but the olives, operating the place eight years, until it was sold. A teaming and hauling enterprise engaged him for the next three years, after which he rented his father's Golf Links farm near Paso Robles. He again teamed in and out of Bakersfield, hauling commissary for the Producers Transportation Co. during the construction of the Producers Transportation pipe line, following which, for another three years, he farmed on his father's ranch.

In 1913, he leased about seven hundred acres of the Huntington place, and raised there grain and stock, becoming especially proficient in the use of ten- and twelve-horse teams and also in the raising of high-grade cattle and horses.

Until he removed to Linne, Ross Reynolds was a school trustee of the Dry Creek district, while in politics, and especially under the banner of the Republicans, he has always found time to do his duty as a patriotic citizen.

**KNUTE BERGER NELSON.**—Sweden has furnished many men who have become some of the most prominent citizens in various parts of America and who have been engaged in various callings. California has drawn her share of these citizens, and many of the progressive farmers who have helped to build up the sections devoted to agriculture trace their lineage back to Sweden. In San Luis Obispo County, in the vicinity of Paso Robles, Knute Berger Nelson is now successfully employed in grain and stock raising. He was born in Genoa, Platte county, Neb., May 11, 1877, a son of the late Swan and Betsy (Erikson) Nelson, both natives of Sweden. The former was born at Malmo, Skane, came to America when a young man, settling on a homestead in Nebraska, was a pioneer there, and became a very prominent man in his community. Besides his homestead of one hundred sixty acres he bought railroad land of an equal number of acres and engaged in farming and stock raising, meeting with success. In 1888 he came to California and settled in this county, where he resided until his death, June 9, 1916. He rented out his land in Nebraska all these years, and it was sold by his family after his death in the fall of 1916. He was the owner of five hundred ninety-eight acres in one body in the Linne district. He served as a school trustee and was one of the organizers of the Farmers'



Alliance Warehouse Association, in which he was a director nearly all the time until he died. His widow lives on the home place, and was the mother of seven children, only three of whom are living. These are Nance Emil, who lives in Los Angeles; Knute B., the subject of this review; and Franz Otto, in Los Angeles.

Living in Nebraska until he was eleven years old, Knute Berger Nelson attended the school in his district until he came to San Luis Obispo County, California, where he finished his schooling in the Linne district. He lived at home on the farm until he was twenty-one. When he had thoroughly learned the details of farming under the watchful eye of his father until he was of age, he was then taken into partnership with him and remained until 1908, farming from five hundred to one thousand acres to grain.

In February, 1911, Mr. Nelson was united in marriage with Miss Jessie C. Sandberg, born in the Linne district and educated in the public schools. Her parents, Erik and Mamie (Nylund) Sandberg, settled in this section in 1888 and now own four hundred acres of good land. After their marriage, Mr. Nelson rented out the home place of five hundred ninety-eight acres and, leasing some adjoining land, started in for himself, putting in from three hundred fifty to four hundred acres of grain each year, and has raised as high as 3600 sacks a season. In 1916 he had 2600 sacks. He runs a small combined harvester operated by two men and twelve horses and cuts his own grain and some for others. He also has a small dairy, making about forty pounds of butter per week. For many years Mr. Nelson has been a stockholder in the Farmers' Alliance Warehouse Association, and since the death of his father he has been a member of the board of directors. He is a trustee of the Linne school district and clerk of the board. Politically he and his wife are Republicans. Mrs. Nelson is a member of the Baptist church. They have one child, Ellery Nelson.

**REV. ANDERS O. MALMBERG.**—It is not often in this world that one finds a man doing something for his fellow-men, and something well worth while, and continuing to do that very thing through years and years of labor and fatigue, without expecting some material reward; but that is just what the Rev. Anders O. Malmberg is noted for, and why today he has such a circle of devoted and admiring friends. Born on April 18, 1835, in Westernorrland, Sweden, and brought up in that highly favored northern country, he was educated for the ministry and ordained a clergyman of the Baptist Church; and for a while, as he preached there, he seemed to be inaugurating a work which was to be identified only with his native country. Certain influences, however, drew him, in 1869, to the United States and Illinois; and before long Providence had directed his path westward to Cherokee county, Iowa, where in 1870 he homesteaded, farmed, assisted in farming for others, and even took part as a day-laborer in railroad construction. It was then that the Rev. Malmberg put into active application certain principles and ideals which he had long had in view, namely, that he should preach the Gospel, while earning his own living, and charge nothing for his services to those to whom he brought the bread of life, and in 1870 he organized the Swedish Baptist Church in Meriden, Iowa, continuing as its pastor until he came to the Pacific Coast.

In 1886, he removed to California, having already purchased eighty acres of land here; and settling at Linne, he organized the Swedish Baptist

Church, of which he has been pastor, with the exception of three years, ever since. All this time, when he has been farming or otherwise laboring for a living, the Rev. Anders Malmberg has served his parishioners without pay; and never perhaps have spiritual ministrations been more appreciated. Later, he bought three hundred acres, but part of this he has since disposed of to his children, retaining only the modest parcel of land embraced in his one hundred twenty acre tract, which he rents to others.

Many years ago, in Sweden, he was married to Engla Elizabeth Anderson, and four of the six children born to them are still living to call him blessed. The children were: Edward O.; Anna, Mrs. Enokson, who died near Linne; Elizabeth, who died in Illinois, in infancy; Elizabeth C., Mrs. Erickson of Linne; Lena, who remains at home ministering to her parents; and Andrew E. The two boys are farmers at Linne.

Mr. Malmberg has been postmaster at Linne for over a quarter of a century, and that fact alone speaks for the citizenship of this naturalized American. He is a Democrat by conviction and preference.

**CHARLEY TRUE.**—There is no better evidence of the real value of a man than the mark of approval set upon him by his discerning and just fellow-citizens when they elect him to the office of a school trustee. This is found in the career of Charley True, the enterprising young rancher, for the fact that for the past seven years he has been clerk of the board of trustees of the Union School district in which he resides speaks for his efficiency. Born in Volcano, Ritchie county, W. Va., on December 26, 1875, the son of Hanson W. True, an oil operator and a member of the True family which came from Holland in the next ship following the Mayflower, he began life handicapped through a serious accident to his father. While engaged in the day's work in the oil fields, a great log rolled upon the unfortunate man and so crushed him that the physician who was called said that he could not live until morning. He recovered, however, and in the fall of 1884 came to California, where he made a great success as a farmer. He was a director and president of the Farmers' Alliance Business Association of Paso Robles, resigning only two years before he died. The remainder of the story of Hanson True's life will be found elsewhere in a sketch full of interest.

Charley True was brought up in West Virginia and came to California with his parents. He went to school in the Union district, and completed his education at Chestnutwood Business College, Santa Cruz. On his return home he took up farming with his father, and they began with a team of mules, while now they use a large and improved combined harvester. When only twenty years of age Charley ran the ranch himself; later he bought the stock and implements and rented the ranch from his father. Since the latter's death he has continued to manage the farm, and now he and his mother own and cultivate some two hundred forty acres, all in excellent shape. He also rents land adjoining, so that together he operates about five hundred acres, using often a team of ten horses. Charley has always been interested in learning and in getting at the best methods of farming, and to that end has read much of the various modes of agriculture in different countries, even subscribing to journals published in widely different parts of the world, and it is quite natural that he should be made a stockholder and director in the Farmers' Alliance Business Association. Of a naturally intelligent make-up, and placing a high value on things historical, he is also interested in

preserving California relics, among which he has the old plow with which his father started farming on the homestead. Charley True was united in marriage on June 26, 1905, at San Jose, with Miss Estella Millikin, a native of Albany, Ore., and the only child of David Millikin, himself a native of Iowa. Her grandfather, John, whose ancestors came over from Scotland, was born in Pennsylvania; her grandmother, once Nancy Herron, was born in Pennsylvania of Holland Dutch descent. The grandparents moved to Iowa, where they remained awhile as farmers; then they crossed the plains in the usual ox-train as early as 1852, and settled at Millikin's Corner in Santa Clara county, three miles from Santa Clara, where they engaged in general farming, and where they died. Mrs. True's father was only a child of seven years when he crossed the great plains. Mrs. True before her marriage graduated, in 1900, from the San Jose State Normal, and for five years engaged in educational work in San Luis Obispo County. She is the devoted mother of two children: Mary Elva and Helen Estella.

**WILLIAM CARL RADLOFF.**—A successful and enterprising rancher, liberal in his support of the movements for the progress of his adopted county and one of those who have done much towards advancing the standard of the schools in his section of San Luis Obispo County, is William Carl Radloff, who was born in Prussia, Germany, January 15, 1867. His father died when the son was a babe, and afterwards his mother brought him to this country and settled in Dodge county, Wis., in 1868. There he was raised on a farm and went to the public schools near Hartford.

His mother was married in Wisconsin, to Josiah Crowfoot, a native of England, who had settled in Dodge county. He served four years in the Civil War, first in Co. E, 10th Wis. Inf., for three years, and then one year in Co. F, 8th U. S. Veteran Volunteers, when he was mustered out and returned to his home and continued farming until 1884. That year Mr. Crowfoot brought his family to California, and for one year they lived near Oakland. In 1885, they came to San Luis Obispo County, located a homestead on Estrella plains and improved it. He died in 1909, and since then his widow continues to make her home on the ranch.

After the death of his step-father, Mr. Radloff operated the farm with success, renting more land and using modern machinery, so that he now has a Samson tractor, a combined harvester, and thirty-two head of horses. Besides doing his own cutting, he works in the neighborhood, cutting for others a thousand acres during the season. In 1903 he bought half a section eight miles from Paso Robles and has a well-equipped place, and farms adjoining land, having about one section under cultivation to grain.

Mr. Radloff was married in Reno, Nev., to Mrs. Carrie (Kalar) Dake, a native of West Virginia, who was also an early settler here. By her first marriage, Mrs. Radloff has one son, Walter Radloff. He was engaged with his father in ranching, and was educated in the grammar and high school in Paso Robles. The family are members of the Methodist Church in Estrella, of which Mr. Radloff is a trustee. He has served for fifteen years as trustee of the Estrella school district and has been clerk of the board for ten years, and in politics is a Progressive Republican. What success has come to Mr. Radloff has been of his own making, and he has won a wide circle of friends since locating in the county.

**HENRY BOSSE.**—The name of Bosse has been associated with the earliest growth of Arroyo Grande and this section, where the late Henry Bosse first arrived in 1869. He was born in Hanover, Germany, December 7, 1844, educated in the public schools and reared to the ordinary life of young men of that country. At the age of twenty-three, in 1867, he came to America. He was without money, nor could he speak or understand English; but he had a willing spirit and a hardy constitution, and after arriving in Muskingum county, Ohio, found employment for eighteen months on a farm. He heard a great deal about this western country while in Ohio, and felt that it had better opportunities; and accordingly he went to New York in 1868 and took passage for Panama, crossed the Isthmus to the Pacific ocean, and re-embarked for San Francisco.

His first occupation after landing was on a dairy ranch in Monterey county, where he stayed one year. In 1869 he arrived in Arroyo Grande, and soon after was employed by Steele Bros. He remained with them fourteen years, being long their head cheese-maker. He was frugal and saved his money, so that when opportunity offered, he might be able to start for himself; and in 1884, with George Steele as a partner, he bought the Oso Flaco ranch, and for the next six years carried on two dairies of one hundred fifty cows, with good success. At the end of that time he was able to purchase Mr. Steele's interest from his widow, becoming owner of four hundred ninety acres of fine land. In the meantime, in 1890, he bought twenty-two and one-half acres in the valley near Arroyo Grande, which he set to fruit and nuts, and which yielded good returns. He also owned one hundred acres of land on the Oso Flaco, upon which he raised beans, and which is now leased.

Mr. Bosse was a director in the Andrews Banking Co. of San Luis Obispo. He was a man of keen business ability and good judgment, and an indefatigable worker. He was always liberal in supporting all good causes, with an unselfish pioneer spirit, and believed California was the best country on earth in which to live. Mr. Bosse was a member and Past Grand of the Odd Fellows, in Arroyo Grande. In politics he was a Republican, though never a seeker after office.

In 1889, Mr. Bosse was united in marriage with Katherine Grieb, a native of Germany, and three daughters were born to them: Nellie, wife of Charles Sanford of Oceano, May and Helen. Mr. Bosse died on December 6, 1915, leaving his family not only a fortune but also the heritage of an untarnished name.

**MARTIN THEODORE ABRAMSON.**—The Abramson family have long been prosperous farmers and have made names for themselves in the various parts of the country wherever they may have settled. Martin T. Abramson is a fine representative of this family, and was born in Red Wing, Goodhue county, Minn., October 2, 1883, a son of Gust. and Anna (Zacharias) Abramson. The father was a prosperous farmer in Minnesota until 1890, when he deemed it best to seek a less rigorous climate and came to California. He settled near Templeton, San Luis Obispo County, bought a ranch of one hundred forty acres on Willow creek, and cleared and improved the land, making a valuable farm. He burned some of the finest kind of live-oak which at this time would command a high price in the market. He sold this place and purchased another ranch north of the town, and died there in 1913, at the age of sixty-seven years. His widow is living in Templeton aged sixty-seven

years. They had four children—William, in Oakland; Edward, in Chicago, Ill.; Martin Theodore, the subject of this review; and Etta, Mrs. Brandlelle, of Los Angeles.

Martin T. Abramson attended the public schools of Oakdale and Bethel districts in this county and remained at home on the farm until the death of his father, when he leased the home ranch of fifty-six acres adjoining Templeton on the north on the state highway, and also leased 100 acres adjoining. This is all under plow and he has fifteen acres in alfalfa, with a pumping plant of four hundred gallons capacity, all of which improvements he has made since 1913. He has a dairy of ten cows and separates the cream on the ranch and ships it to San Luis Obispo. In partnership with two others, he owns a steam thrasher, which he runs each fall.

Mr. Abramson was united in marriage in Templeton with Mabel Hanson, a native of Paso Robles, and they have one daughter, Helen. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church, of which Mr. Abramson is a trustee. In politics he is a Republican. He is a self-made man and has made a success of his farming enterprise and commands the respect of all who know him for his sturdy traits of manhood.

**FRANK N. VILLA.**—Frank N. Villa, one of the proprietors of the auto-truck service plying between San Luis Obispo and the coast towns, and one of the up-to-date men of the county, was born near Cayucos. His father, Robert Villa, a native of this state, and his grandfather Villa, were pioneer settlers on Villa creek, which was named after the family. Robert Villa owned a ranch at the mouth of the creek, and lived there until he sold it and retired to Cayucos, where he now resides. He married Guadalupe Higuera, a native daughter, as well as a descendant of the prominent Spanish family of the Higuera in California; and of the nine children born to them all are living, Frank N. Villa being the youngest.

Frank N. Villa attended the public schools, and then began working for wages for his brother and E. R. Freeman, James Cass, J. L. Hardie and others until 1911. Between dairy seasons he worked six years for C. A. Cass on threshing machines.

In 1911 Mr. Villa saw the opportunity for a source of revenue in organizing some kind of service for the transportation of freight and dairy products to and from the railroad into the towns along the coast; and in partnership with Henry Minetti, he bought a second-hand truck for \$3,300, organized the Coast Truck Company in January, 1912, and began business. The time was opportune and the business expanded rapidly until at this time they have four large trucks on the road nearly all the time, making regular trips from San Luis Obispo to Morro, Cayucos, and Cambria and return, hauling cream, butter, cheese and all kinds of freight and farm produce. This is the only truck service out of San Luis Obispo, and the proprietors are making a financial success. They are courteous and obliging, and are square in all their dealings. They have lately leased the large new garage in Cayucos for their trucks, and for a freight warehouse and public garage.

Fraternally Mr. Villa is popular in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Cayucos, has passed through the chairs of the lodge and has been a delegate to the Grand Lodge meetings in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Santa Cruz. He is an enterprising and progressive young man and is highly esteemed for his good moral character and business ability.



*Frank N. Villa*



**GERD KLINTWORTH.**—A builder-up and expander of San Luis Obispo County, in which for over a third of a century he has dwelt, Gerd Klintworth still shares the most optimistic views concerning the State of his adoption, and all who know Gerd share the most optimistic views concerning him. A native of Hanover, Germany, in which kingdom he was born on March 8, 1858, Gerd is the son of John Klintworth, a farmer, who provided the boy with a valuable introduction to the science of agriculture. When he had finished school he continued on the farm till 1883. During this time, that is, in 1879 and 1880, he served in the German army.

In 1883 he came to the United States and settled at Orange, in California. At first he was in the employ of a Boston company, and busy in setting out some three hundred sixty acres of vineyards; but in 1886 he came to Linne. From the Huer-Huero Ranch he and a partner bought eighty acres of land, which they later divided, and still later Gerd bought his partner's share. The eighty acres he then set out is the first vineyard planted in Linne, and there he made some of the first wine. He also devoted land to the raising of grain and stock, beginning at the bottom and improving both his acreage and his products. Another two hundred twelve acres were added, and now Gerd owns and operates some two hundred ninety-two acres, which include peach, plum, pear and almond orchards, and ten acres of vineyard, from the grapes of which he makes claret.

In Orange, in 1886, Gerd was married to Miss Elsaba Meyer, who was also born in Hanover. From this marriage seven children have been born—Henry, Emma, Fred, Christ, Mary, Minna and William, who are all at home. A Republican, like so many of his fellow-countrymen, and an elder in the German Lutheran Church at Geneseo, Gerd interests himself in many of the questions of the day; and ably assisted by his children, he rents some five hundred acres of the Huer-Huero Ranch, which he operates by means of two large teams.

**ALBERT WOLF.**—Coming from a foreign country with a good trade, after having traveled over the main centers of Europe, and settling in San Francisco and establishing a business, Albert Wolf built up a trade extending all over the state and finally came back to the soil and farmed with success, showing what perseverance and strict business integrity will accomplish. This, in the main, is the life story of our subject, who died at his home in Union in 1910, at the age of seventy-eight years. Mr. Wolf was born in Austria, received a fine education in his native land and learned the trade of file maker, after which he traveled over various parts of Europe working at the trade. He was in Austria and Germany, in the cities of Hamburg and Bremen, and went into France and Italy, stopping in Rome for a time, and thence into Switzerland, and also visited Constantinople. During his travels he learned different languages and could speak them fluently. On his tours, also, Mr. Wolf kept a book, making note of important happenings, and securing the signatures of many of the important city officials in the various cities he visited during his wanderings about Europe.

He eventually came to the United States, learned English while he carried on business here and became a man of affairs. He worked at his trade in Baltimore, Philadelphia and Detroit. Meeting with good returns from his labor in the East, he decided that he would come to the Pacific Coast. Accordingly, he sold out and made the trip to California, settling in San



Union Iron Works established the Union File Works. Starting on a small scale at Second and Beale streets, and later having larger quarters at Twenty-sixth and Harrison, he gradually built up a very extensive business, at one time having fourteen men working in his shop. He made all the files for the Union Iron Works, and for different foundries and rolling mills; supplied the blacksmith shops and brass foundries, planing and sawmills, and box factories; and shipped files to various parts of the state. In fact, for years he was the sole maker of hand-made files in the western coast country, and built up a very large and profitable enterprise.

When the machine-made files began to be shipped into the country, however, he could not compete with that trade, and decided that he would quit the business and go to ranching and enjoy the last years of his life in the open country. Accordingly, in 1887, he landed in San Luis Obispo County and homesteaded one hundred sixty acres of land, improved the same, sunk wells and erected windmills, built corrals and barns, fenced the land and erected a comfortable house for his family. He also engaged in raising grain; and assisted by his sons, he leased adjoining land and ranched on a large scale.

He was married to Maria Phillip, another native of Austria, who survives him and still lives at the old home in Union. They had six children: Albert, on the home farm; August, farming near San Miguel; Antonia, Mrs. McNeil, who lives near Union; Otto, also residing near Union; Louis, who is in the same district; and Mary, who died at the age of thirteen years. Mr. Wolf was a self-made man, a public-spirited citizen and a successful manufacturer as well as farmer, and he retained the friendship and confidence of all those with whom he had dealings, as well as social relations, and at his death the state lost one of her most progressive citizens.

**WALTER W. RHYNE.**—As might be expected of one who has spent his entire life in California, W. W. Rhyne is a patriotic son of the Golden State and is a champion of all measures that have for their aim the development of its resources. He was born in Monterey county, July 26, 1878, a son of Foote Rhyne, born in Mississippi, in 1852, and grandson of Henry W. Rhyne, who brought the family from Mississippi on one of the first trains that crossed the continent. The latter settled in the neighborhood of Salinas, where he farmed and later homesteaded one hundred sixty acres and pre-empted a like amount in the Estrella section in this county, improved and farmed it for years. He then sold out and bought in the Adelaida country, and again disposed of what he had and retired to San Luis Obispo.

Foote Rhyne accompanied his parents to California in 1869, settled at Salinas and there married Nellie Kitchen, who was born in Mendocino county. In 1880 they came to San Luis Obispo County and spent two years at Arroyo Grande; then, in 1882, he homesteaded and pre-empted three hundred twenty acres on the Huer-Huero, on the Shandon road, and operated the ranch for thirty years, when he sold it and located in Turlock. He bought land there and raised alfalfa and cattle until 1915, when he had made enough to retire to San Jose, where he is spending his declining years in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest. There were ten children in the family, and nine are living. The living include: Walter; Linnie, who is Mrs. Henze of San Jose; Weaver F., who resides in this county; Homer F. and Clarence L., partners in a stage business at Taft; Ernest O., who is mining near San Jose; Marion V., who is engaged in renting autos at Taft;

Merle H., in San Jose, and Harold J., in San Jose. Myrtle L., a twin, died at two years of age.

Brought up on the home farm and attending the public school in this county, working from a lad in the stock and farming business, Walter W. Rhyne learned to drive eight and ten-horse teams in the fields, and helped at home until he was twenty-two. He was then married in San Luis Obispo to Isabel Reynolds, a daughter of Dwight Reynolds (whose interesting sketch appears elsewhere), and they have four children. These are Ruth Juanita, Mildred Isabel, Walter Maxwell, and Carol May. After his marriage Mr. Rhyne followed ranching two years there, and then leased on the Huer-Huero for five years, afterwards running his father's place until 1910, when he leased six hundred forty acres of the Huntington ranch, where he is engaged in grain farming. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Alliance Warehouse Association at Paso Robles, and was school trustee two terms in Dry Creek district, and clerk during the entire time. He and his wife are members of the Baptist Church in Paso Robles. Mr. Rhyne is a successful rancher and grain raiser and is making a place for himself in the business world of San Luis Obispo County.

**WILLIAM ALFRED MILLER.**—A native son well known in Santa Margarita is William Alfred Miller, who was born about a mile and a half from San Luis Obispo, on January 3, 1862. He is a son of David Smith Miller, an easterner, who came to California in the great rush of 1849 across the plains; and who, having mined a little, early settled in San Luis Obispo County, for a while running a stage between Cambria and the county seat. Then he served as deputy under Sheriff Norcross, but found it unpleasant and resigned to engage in sheep raising. In one way or another he lost most of the sheep and the goats he had invested in, and when he took to horse-raising he experienced the discouragement of having horse after horse stolen from him. Next he took a homestead of one hundred sixty acres on Miller Hill. As was natural for one of his industry, he greatly improved the land, setting out orchards and woods, and adding to his property until his death in 1904. This sad event was brought about through an accident which occurred to him as he was returning from a trip to his old home in the east. In Oakland he was run down by a train, and died at the age of seventy-three. The mother was Prudenciana Ortega, of the well-known Santa Barbara family of Ortega and Ruiz, and died in 1863.

William was the elder of two children, and is the only one living; and as a result of his losing his mother when he was but a year old, he was brought up by Mrs. Hill, an aunt, in Atascadero until he was three years of age, after which he lived with Mrs. Barnes at Aptos, in Santa Cruz county, for seven years. He then removed to Jolon, where he attended the public school, and was soon back in San Antonio and then at school in Cambria. Finally, he finished his instruction in San Luis Obispo, going to work for the summer at delivering water. A livery stable in San Luis Obispo next employed him, and after that he did some ranch work with a header at Pozo, finishing which, he learned the barber's trade under Lawrence Gaxiola in San Luis Obispo. Probably on account of his father he located on Miller Hill, and improved a fifty-acre holding, and about the same time, in 1890, he started the barber shop now so well known in Santa Margarita, which is in charge of his son. Mr. Miller bought a building and remodeled it,

making two stores. In one he has the barber shop, and in the other he serves short orders and ice cream, and has a line of confectionery, cigars and tobaccos. He owns two residences here and other desirable property elsewhere. Mr. Miller is a Republican in national politics, has been for many years a member of the N. S. G. W., and is a charter member of San Luis Obispo parlor. He was married in San Luis Obispo to Miss Guadalupe Mendozer, who was born in San Luis Obispo County, where she lived until her marriage. She passed away in 1912. Two sons who are the particular satisfaction of their father are: Fred, who maintains the electric block signal system for the section of the Southern Pacific, having its headquarters at Santa Margarita; and David W., who is a barber and the leader of the local band. Fred has three children—Mabel, Beatrice and the baby; and David has two—Alfred and Agnes.

**JOHN T. JARDINE.**—California has been good to John T. Jardine, as his friends are glad to know, and as a result and a reward for his industry of years, he enjoys today a comfortable competency, which enables him to be independent and permits him and his wife to extend a generous hospitality. He was born in Lexington, Ky., on November 18, 1868, and came to San Luis Obispo County, Cal., in 1874.

Settling in Paso Robles, he attended the public schools, remaining at home until he was twenty-one, when he began the raising of grain. He ranched for four years on a thousand acres of land of the Santa Ysabel, and for eight or ten years cultivated another thousand acres of the Estrella ranch, using eight-horse teams and a combined harvester. In the meantime he bought a part of this present ranch of three hundred twenty acres on Estrella Plains, continuing the management of both farms.

Finally he gave up renting land, in order to run his own farm, to which he added a new purchase of three hundred twenty acres, which is now well improved with good buildings. He raises wheat and barley and has harvested some large crops. Another ranch of six hundred forty acres southwest of Shandon also belongs to him, and is devoted to grain-raising, nearly all the land being under cultivation.

In Paso Robles, he was married to Miss Nellie Abbey, a native of England, and three children, Flora, Florence and Mary, blessed their home. For the past seven years he has served as a trustee of the Estrella school district, and is a member of the Knights of Pythias of Paso Robles; while with his wife he is a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood.

**THOMAS PETERSEN.**—One of the most substantial citizens in the vicinity of Templeton, a man of retiring disposition and unostentatious in manner as well as one whose word is as good as his bond, Thomas Petersen was born in Schleswig, near Tondern, in 1851. He was reared on the home farm and attended the grammar and high schools in his native country. In 1871 he came to California and for three years was engaged in farming in the San Joaquin valley, and in 1874 came to Monterey county and leased land, on which he engaged in raising grain. He began with four hundred acres and later added another four hundred acres, and for thirteen years was very

In 1887, Mr. Petersen located in San Luis Obispo County and bought his present place of four hundred fifteen acres, one and one-quarter miles from Templeton, cleared the land and broke it, and put it in grain. He bought adjoining land and now has four hundred fifty-five acres, and has made of





*Mr. and Mrs. Antonio Williams*

the entire ranch a fine homestead. All the buildings on the place he himself has erected, and otherwise he has made valuable improvements. Besides his ranch, Mr. Petersen owns the largest brick business building in Templeton, which he rents out.

Mr. Petersen was united in marriage in Monterey with Miss Ida Hansen, a native of Schleswig, Germany, and they became the parents of two children, Martin, a respected rancher of this vicinity, and Christene, who is at home. Mrs. Petersen died at their home, leaving her husband, son and daughter, as well as a host of warm friends and neighbors, to mourn her loss. Mr. Petersen is a Lutheran. He is a self-made man in every sense of the word, and is kind-hearted and public-spirited to a large degree.

**JOHN PERARI WILLIAMS AND ANTONIO WILLIAMS.**—Another pioneer family whose influence has been felt in San Luis Obispo County is that represented by Antonio Williams, who has the distinction of being a native son of the county, having been born in San Simeon, February 22, 1872. His father, John Perari Williams, a pioneer of California in 1859, was born at Madara, on the boundary line of Portugal, April 11, 1839. When he was twenty years of age he started alone for the New World, coming direct to California and locating in Santa Cruz; and being willing to engage in any employment that would yield him a living, he went to work on a sailing vessel that plied between Santa Cruz and Monterey. He had been reared on a farm, but he readily accustomed himself to his new occupation.

Coming to San Simeon, he engaged, for about six years, in the whaling trade, while that industry was at its height. Seeking employment on land again, he worked for a dairy concern for a short time, and then rented land near San Simeon, the present site of the Hearst ranch, and there he followed general farming and stock-raising with good success until 1883. He next moved to Rocky Butte and purchased seven hundred acres adapted to grazing; and there also he followed stock-raising. Disposing of this property in 1891, he went to the San Jrope section above San Simeon, and continued the same business there for five years, removing thence to Santa Rosa creek, and in 1900 to Cambria, where he resided with his family until his death, September 18, 1907, aged sixty-eight years.

He was married in Santa Cruz, Cal., in 1859, to Florina Silva, born in 1842, on Fial island, under the jurisdiction of Portugal. She came with her sisters to the United States and located in Santa Cruz, and now makes her home with her son Antonio. Of this marriage sixteen children were born.

Antonio Williams, the sixth in order of birth of the sixteen children born to his parents, attended school in San Simeon for two seasons, and then went to work to help out with the support of the family. He was employed on the dairy ranch of F. Smith four years, and then drove a team on the Hearst ranch for the following six years. At the time of his marriage, in 1899, and for two years thereafter, he worked for wages and so got a start; then he rented two hundred eighty acres of the Baker ranch near Cambria and began raising beans and grain, remaining on this place until 1905.

Having prospered, he decided to branch out, and leased three hundred acres on the Van Gordon ranch, purchased sixty cows and engaged in the dairy business, with pronounced success. At the expiration of his lease, in 1910, he sold his stock and bought one hundred forty acres of improved land,

his present place in the eastern part of Cambria, now the home place, where he is meeting with success in general farming. He has improved the place with a fine barn and dairy house, and has a good residence. He has installed a pumping plant and is raising alfalfa. Besides this he leases near by and is doing well in raising beans.

On December 2, 1899, Antonio Williams was united in marriage with Miss Rosa Machado, born in San Luis Obispo, November 9, 1881. They have three children, Edward, Antonio and John. Mrs. Williams' father, Domingo Machado, was born in the Azores islands, came to the United States and located in San Luis Obispo County in 1873, where, the following year, he was united in marriage to Rosa Lima. He engaged in farming soon after at Laguna and later in Los Osos valley, and followed that vocation until his death, August 9, 1915. The mother is living on the ranch in Los Osos. Of their nine children, Mrs. Williams is the fourth in order of birth.

Mr. Williams is a Republican, and the family attend the Catholic church. He is considered one of the successful men of Cambria section, where he is highly respected.

**ALBERT RALPH HORSTMAN.**—A wide-awake, active business man, ever ready to take advantage of favorable opportunities for advancing his financial interests, A. R. Horstman is prominently identified with the important industries of San Luis Obispo County, being proprietor of the Templeton Meat Market. A native of Iowa, he was born in Reinbeck, October 4, 1879, a son of William and Amelia (Petersen) Horstman, natives of Schleswig-Holstein and Bremen, Germany, respectively.

William Horstman was educated in his native land and at the age of twenty-two years came to America to carve out a fortune and a future. He located in Iowa, where he began the improvement of a farm and engaged in raising hogs on a large scale. The country was open at that time, and he had plenty of grass on the range for his hogs and raised plenty of corn. He later engaged in the grain business and at one time had seven elevators along the railroad, and built up a business that was the largest in his section of Iowa. The last elevator he built was seven stories high and equipped with a sixty-three horsepower engine. He had a double row of corn cribs several hundred feet long with every facility for loading and unloading. He prospered with his business and accumulated a competency. He turned the business over to his two oldest sons, but after two years sold out.

In 1886, he made a trip to California and, stopping at Templeton, purchased about eight hundred acres in that vicinity; and in 1887 he brought his family here to settle. He built a comfortable home in the town and engaged in the general merchandise business and opened a bank. He also looked after his ranches, putting out a prune orchard of fifty acres; and on his town property he had fifteen acres in orchard in the Thompson addition, where he had bought additional property. He gave up the banking business and carried on his merchandise business for sixteen years with good success. Selling his ranches and business, he retired and located in Los Angeles, where he is living in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest, and in his seventy-eighth year is hale and hearty, and keeps abreast of the times, as he did when a

To William Horstman and his wife ten children were born: Adolph,

born in Reinbeck, Iowa, in 1880; John, born in San Francisco, Calif., Mrs. William

Grelek of Los Angeles; Charles, engaged in the insurance business in Oakland; Lena, who married Mr. Perkins and died in Los Angeles, 1915; Gussie and Mollie (twins), Mrs. Skinner of National City and Mrs. Eddy of Los Angeles; William, who resides in Fresno, salesman for Toledo Scale Co.; Albert R., the subject of this review; Louise, Mrs. Johns of Orondo, Wash.; Elsie, at home, a graduate M.D. of the Los Angeles Medical College, who is engaged in the practice of her profession.

A. R. Horstman was reared in Iowa until eight years of age, when he came to California with his parents and settled in Templeton; and here he received his schooling, taking a business course at night school. He learned the carpenter's trade and followed it for a time. In 1906, he went to Richmond and engaged in contracting and building, but returned to Templeton in 1908 and took up his present line of work, learning the trade under Eddy Brothers. For a time he had charge of their slaughter house and the buying of cattle, and he soon became an expert. In 1912 he succeeded them in business and still has charge of his butchering and buying and has made a wonderful success of his work. He has a thirteen acre prune orchard one half mile west of town.

In Cayucos, Mr. Horstman was united in marriage with Miss Rose Herman, a native of Ohio, who came to California when a small child, with her parents. Mr. and Mrs. Horstman have one child, a daughter Dorothy. Besides his business interests, Mr. Horstman gives of his time and means to aid those enterprises that are promoted to advance the best interests of the people and build up the county. He is chief of the local fire department, and a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood, and of the Templeton Board of Trade. He is a Republican in national politics, while locally he supports the men best qualified for office regardless of party.

**REV. THOMAS McPHERSON BULEY.**—In no city of California, perhaps, is the pulpit better represented than in Paso Robles, by the Rev. Thomas McPherson Buley, the well-known pastor of the Congregational Church, a man of much native ability, culture and refinement, who has always stood for the moral uplift of the community. His father, the Rev. Thomas M. Buley, was also a minister, born in Kent, England, educated in London, having come, after his ordination, to Toronto, Canada, where he was for forty years a local pastor of the old Wesleyan Methodist Church. A man of deep religious feeling, honest and earnest in endeavor, he left behind him an excellent record at his death in that city. His wife, the mother of our subject, whose maiden name was Caroline Braund, was born at Bideford, Devonshire, England, and now lives in Los Angeles. This interesting couple had six children, four of whom are still living; one, named Amos, has been for some time associated with Mr. Miley in successful oil operations, in Los Angeles, as manager of the States Consolidated Oil Co.

Born in Toronto on October 7, 1873, the third child in the family, Thomas McPherson Buley completed a course at the public schools and entered the Toronto Collegiate Institute, where he was graduated in 1892. From a lad he had desired to be a preacher, always reading and studying to that end; and having made a great sensation with a sermon preached to two thousand people in the old Toronto Church in Queen's street, when he was but sixteen years old, he was received on missionary probation and appointed to six mission churches in the North. Each Saturday and Sunday, therefore, found



him in the pulpit, while on Monday he was back in studious application to his college duties. After completing the collegiate course, he served for two years as pastor at Orillia, Canada; then for one year at Cooksville; and then as assistant pastor at the Tabernacle in Toronto, under Dr. Chown.

Afflicted with ill health, he came to Los Angeles in September, 1902. His health improving in California, he engaged in city mission work in Los Angeles, also devoting much time to assisting the Rev. Ryland at Trinity Auditorium. In January, 1906, he accepted a call to the New Orleans district of Louisiana, and there, at Covington, he worked hard for two years to build up the church. He was transferred for three years to the Methodist Church South, at Plaquemine, during which time he was statistical secretary of the Louisiana Conference. Returning once more to California for his health, and being unable to subscribe to the methods of appointment of pastors in the conference of the Methodist Church—which in the United States has a system different from that in Canada, where pastors are called by various congregations, and remain as long as it is pleasant—he entered the Congregational Church and organized under their banner a congregation at Venice.

Later he was called to Calexico as pastor of the Congregational Church there, and after eighteen months, that is, in September, 1912, he removed to Paso Robles and was installed as pastor of the Plymouth Congregational Church, which was organized as a congregation twenty-six years ago, and which celebrated the dedication of its church eight years later.

In the spring of 1902, at Harris, Ia., on April 2, Rev. Thomas M. Buley was married to Miss Cora A. Young, who was born at Center Junction, Jones county, Ia., the daughter of David D. Young, a native of Pennsylvania. Mrs. Buley's mother was Miss Elvira A. McDole, a New Yorker, whose ancestry is traced back to England, Scotland and Holland, whence they came to the renowned Sleepy Hollow, made famous by Washington Irving; while her maternal grandmother was a Miss Almira Storrs, a member of the same family as that of the Rev. Dr. Richard Storrs, the cultured and eloquent preacher of Syracuse and New York City, with whom she traces her family back to Plymouth Rock and the "Mayflower." Mrs. Buley is a woman of exceptional refinement and culture. She laid the foundation of her education in study at Highland Park College, Des Moines, of which she is a graduate; and she afterwards pursued a course in graduate work at the Northern Illinois Normal School, at Dixon. Mrs. Buley's father moved with his father to Jackson county, Ia., and participated in the early settlement of that section; then he lived at Andrew, the old county seat (the county seat was afterwards removed to Maquoketa); and still later he changed his residence to Jones county, Ia., where he busied himself as a farmer and dairyman until he came to Los Angeles. In that city, in June, 1905, he died. His wife, now past eighty years of age and in the full enjoyment of her mental faculties and physical health, resides with Mrs. Buley. Mrs. Buley is one of two children who grew up out of a family of five.

The Rev. and Mrs. Buley have two children, Horace M. and Chester M., both sturdy and studious, and gifted with much native ability. The family reside in their beautiful home at Sixteenth and Locust streets, Paso Robles. A deep thinker, especially in the field of psychology, and also a very literary man, who for the past eighteen years has devoted himself to a life work soon to appear in print, the Rev. Mr. Buley is not only well-read and interesting as

a conversationalist, but as a speaker and a preacher he is clear, decisive and emphatic. His sermons, the product of much thought and preparation, are replete with liberal views, modified by the truth as he finds it, and are models of excellence.

At Spirit Lake, Ia., the Rev. Mr. Buley was made a member of Silver Lake Lodge, F. & A. M.; and at Harris, Ia., he joined the Odd Fellows. In each place where the pastor and his wife have lived they have been among the most popular members of the local society.

**GEORGE F. BELL.**—Few names are more inseparably associated with the history of the city of Paso Robles and northern San Luis Obispo County than that of George F. Bell, who, as merchant and farmer, has proved the value of his citizenship and the integrity of his character. He is best known in Paso Robles as owner and proprietor of "The Bells," the largest commercial establishment in the county. He came to this vicinity on February 20, 1886, before the railroad was completed to Templeton from the north. When the sale of lots was held in Paso Robles, Mr. Bell purchased one on Pine street, between Twelfth and Thirteenth, and in October, 1886, took up his residence here. He erected a frame building, 18x31 in size, which he opened for business in December; and for the following ten years he conducted a general merchandise business. This increased to the extent that he felt justified in moving; and having purchased a mercantile business on Twelfth street, he removed his stock to the new location, and a few years later bought a lot on the same street and erected a store building and again moved his stock of goods.

When the Granger Union Stores became bankrupt, Mr. Bell bought the grocery and dry goods stocks, leased the rooms occupied by that concern on Thirteenth and Pine streets and continued business from that place. Later he bought out Doyle's stock of hardware and plumbing, and now has one of the largest stores in the entire county; and "Bell's" is a household word throughout the Paso Robles section. He built a store building suitable for his needs, and has his plumbing establishment in a building in the rear of the lot. The former horse delivery system has been supplanted by automobiles, and an increasing business is being carried on under the personal supervision of Mr. Bell. For the past twenty years he has been engaged in farming and stockraising, and has owned various ranches, and he is now owner of one in the Isabella, and another in the Adelaida district, both bringing profit to their owner.

The early life of George F. Bell did not indicate the career he finally selected, for where he was born at Milton, on Lake Champlain, Vt., on December 11, 1844, there was little promise for a future. His father, Samuel B. Bell, was a farmer and a manufacturer of cutters, but he moved in 1854 to Lacy, DeKalb county, Ill., became a farmer there, broke the wild prairie with ox-teams, and nine years later bought horses and started across the plains for the western country. Arriving in Carson City, Nev., he engaged in teaming for about ten years. While living in Illinois he had been ordained for the ministry in the Methodist Episcopal Church and always preached; and after he stopped teaming, he gave his whole time to the ministry. He met an accidental death while hauling wood, dying aged forty-four years. He married Pauline Doud, a daughter of George Doud, a well-to-do farmer, near Poultney, Vt. After the death of her husband, Mrs. Bell spent

most of her time in Nevada, coming in 1911 to Paso Robles, where she makes her home with her son, George L., the eldest of her four children, only two of whom survive.

The schooling obtained by George Bell in Illionis was limited, for there were no free schools at that time in his part of the country. In 1863 he crossed the plains with his parents to Carson City, where he and his father later bought a toll road, which he managed and afterward sold. He then came to California and in 1867 worked on a threshing machine in Santa Clara county, and then returned to Nevada. Desiring to fit himself for some career, he came back to San Francisco and took a course in Heald's Business College and went back to Nevada and secured a position in a merchandise establishment in Carson City. In 1872 he was married and concluded to branch out for himself; and in consequence he engaged in merchandising in different mining camps until he settled in Paso Robles, California.

The marriage of Mr. Bell united him with Miss Anna James, a native of Missouri and a daughter of John James, an Englishman, who was an engineer in a flouring mill in Missouri, but who crossed the plains to Nevada about 1850, where he farmed. Mrs. Bell was educated in the University of the Pacific. She became the mother of four children: Alberta, who married A. H. Burnell of Martinez; Anna, a teacher in the Jackson High School; George, who is assisting in the store; and Bessie, a teacher in the Lux Domestic Economy School in San Francisco.

Mr. Bell was made a Mason in Douglas Lodge, No. 12, F. & A. M., in Genoa, Nev. He is a self-made man, successful, and interested in the upbuilding of Paso Robles and San Luis Obispo County.

**WILLIAM JOSEPH MANN.**—A faithful employe of the Southern Pacific Railroad Co. as maintainer of auto-electric block signals, W. J. Mann merits the confidence of his superior officers. He was born at Newbury, Green county, Ind., on February 28, 1871, a son of Isaiah Mann, who settled in Green county, coming from Ohio, where he was born. His wife, Harriett Ghosner, was born in Green county, Ind., where she died in 1874, after which Mr. Mann returned to Ohio and lived until his death in 1876. They had a family of four children, two of whom are now living—William Joseph Mann and Mrs. Martha E. Hoover, now of Oakland.

After the death of his parents, William J., then a lad of five years, had to paddle his own canoe and was kicked from pillar to post in Mansfield, Ohio, until, in 1881, he came to California to the home of an aunt, Mrs. Mollie Luper, who had settled on a ranch near Downey, Los Angeles county. Here he grew to young manhood, attended school until he was eighteen and then began working for wages on nearby ranches. In 1890 he went to Wasco, in Sherman county, Ore., followed ranching and riding the range, and continued that after he came back to California. He also followed well drilling in Orange county. One year was spent as longshoreman at Newport Beach; then, for eighteen months, he was in the employ of the Russ Lumber Co., in San Diego, and then went back to Orange county and later to Indio, Riverside County, where he engaged in raising cantaloupes and farmed. Four years were then spent at the factory of the Los Mamitos Sugar Co.

With experience of travel in various parts of the state, he then went to Salinas in 1903 and entered the employ of the Sperry Flour Co., going from there to San Ardo in 1907 as an employe of the Southern Pacific Railroad

Co. in his present capacity, and three years later he was sent to Salinas, and in 1913 to Paso Robles, making daily trips with a railroad motor car, his district including the mileage from Bradley to Paso Robles.

In Orange county, Cal., on July 1, 1893, Mr. Mann and Miss Abbie Holliday were united in marriage. She was born in Rockdale, Texas, a daughter of Herbert and Lucy (Stephens) Holliday, natives of Illinois and Mississippi, respectively. They were farmers in Texas, came to California in 1884 and located in Norwalk, but are now residents of Watts. Grandfather John R. Holliday was an artisan in the Civil War and is living on Ninety-first street, Los Angeles, at the age of ninety-eight years. Of the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Mann the following children have been born: Grace, Mrs. Walling of Paso Robles; Gladys, Mrs. Sullivan of San Francisco; Willella; Lucile; Eugene; Esther and Ione. Mr. Mann was made a Mason in Santa Lucia Lodge, No. 302, in King City, Monterey county. In politics he is a Republican. Mrs. Mann is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

**GEORGE A. BAKEMAN.**—The Civil War will always be an absorbing theme not merely to those who participated in it, but to the aftercomers who listen to the tales of veterans as if they were fairy stories, awful and sometimes realistically grand. Even when such narratives are transmitted second-hand they frequently lose little of their charm or interest; much depending, of course, on the manner in which the precious side-lights of history have been flashed from one soul to another, and are reflected with more or less of their original power. George A. Bakeman has some such narratives of thrilling and courage-testing experience, the heritage he received from his honored father, and if you should fall in with him some day as he is jogging comfortably along the fine highway near Paso Robles, you may depend upon being very profitably entertained.

Born in Keosauqua, Van Buren county, Ia., on May 15, 1867, George was the grandson of Henry Bakeman, who settled in that state in 1846, and died soon after his arrival. His wife, George's grandmother, Mary Recaugh, passed away in 1866. A son, the father of George, was Henry Bakeman, a native of Hanover, Germany, who was born in 1839, and became a farmer with a most honorable Civil War record. Becoming a member, in 1861, of Co. F, Second Iowa Vol. Inf., he served for three years and was honorably discharged, after which he was back in the Government service as a bridge builder, carpenter and teamster, and was wounded while hauling ammunition to the front, when he was attacked and shot through the calf of the leg. He remained until the close of the War, and left the service with the written testimony, accompanying his inner conviction, that he had well performed his duty by his adopted country. At Keosauqua, he was married, on January 2, 1866, to Miss Eliza Harden, who was born near Logan, Hocking county, O., the daughter of Evan Harden, a Pennsylvanian, who had settled first in Ohio and then had come as a farmer to Iowa. Her mother was Miss Mary Wolf, a native of Perry county, O., who died near San Luis Obispo, at the age of eighty-four. After his marriage, George's father and mother had come to San Luis Obispo, first farming for a while in Iowa, and Mrs. Bakeman's brother, Jacob Harden, was a farmer and stockman in this county in Cholame Valley, and died about 1899.

For five years Henry Bakeman successfully engaged in stock-raising and established the reputation of his brand, a combination of the letter H

with an inverted J, and then he went to Arroyo Grande, where he bought a ranch, in 1887, of thirty acres, one mile from the town. This he later sold and invested in a stock ranch, in time disposing of both the cattle and the brand. When he died, an honored member of the G. A. R., on April 21, 1895, he possessed one hundred twenty-six acres in one ranch, and a parcel of twenty acres in another. After his death, Mrs. Bakeman managed the farm for four years, eventually selling it and taking up her residence with her son. She is a member of the Woman's Relief Corps and of the Presbyterian Church. Two children were born of her marriage; Simon Perry, who died at the age of ten months, and George, who was brought up in San Luis Obispo County, and attended the schools at Arroyo Grande. His father being in ill-health, the lad went to work when he was seventeen, taking entire charge of the place, continuing the cattle business, and remaining home; and when the ranch was sold, another one was bought in the valley adjoining Arroyo Grande. There he went in for the raising of beans, and now has fifty-three acres planted to that profitable crop, the land in some cases making a record-breaking yield.

In the old town of Arroyo Grande, George Bakeman was married to Miss Rosa Jane Love, a native of Napa county, who died in Arroyo Grande in 1900, leaving five children: Zenas Garfield, a farmer at Arroyo Grande; Ency Arden, the P. C. R. R. agent at Santa Maria; Verna, now Mrs. Russell Edwards, on the home ranch; Ruby Ione, who is studying in Los Angeles to be a trained nurse; and Nina Alice, who is also at home. A Mason, Mr. Bakeman is a member of the Arroyo Grande Lodge No. 274, while he is past grand of the Odd Fellows, at the same place, past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, and also a member of the Rebekahs, and of the local Camp of the Woodmen of the World. In politics, Mr. Bakeman lines up with the old-guard Republicans.

**PETER McCANN.**—Among the men who have spent their active years on Estrella Plains is Peter McCann, who was born near Malone, Franklin county, N. Y. His parents were Arthur and Margaret (Tierney) McCann, natives of the Province of Quebec, Canada, and Plattsburg, N. Y., respectively. The father made a trip to California at the time of the gold excitement on the coast, spent a few years in mining and then returned to New York and engaged in farming at Chateaugay. However, the call of the great West proved too strong for him; so in 1888 he brought his family to California, homesteading near Delano, Kern county. Two years showed him that the desert was not what he wanted, and he came to San Luis Obispo County and bought three hundred twenty acres on the Estrella Plains, where he engaged in grain farming with success. As he succeeded, he added another quarter section of land to his holdings. It was on this ranch that his beloved wife died, in 1900; he passed away in 1909. They had seven children, of whom six are now living, the subject of our sketch being the oldest.

Peter McCann was reared on the home farm in New York and near there attended the public schools; and after coming to California, he assisted his father for a few years with the ranch work in the various places in which they lived together. Then he was to be found at Buttonwillow, Kern county, in the employ of Miller & Lux; and there he remained for five years, when he came back to Paso Robles, where he has since been engaged in raising grain. Here he owns a quarter section of land about five miles from the town, and he is also leasing three hundred twenty acres adjoining; and

each year he farms about two hundred fifty acres to grain and each year summer fallows. Mr. McCann is a natural lover of horses and has given much study to their ailments, making a special study of veterinary dentistry; and this fact being known, he is frequently called upon to minister to horses in that capacity, and is very successful.

Mr. McCann was united in marriage in San Miguel with Mrs. Caroline (Crediford) Givens, who was born in North Kona, Hawaiian Islands. Her father, Joseph Crediford, was a native of Maine, and her grandfather, Josiah Crediford, was born in London, came to the United States and settled in Maine, where he died at the age of ninety-one years. An uncle of Joseph Crediford on his mother's side, Otis Blabon, came to California by way of Cape Horn as early as 1846, returning to Maine some time later; and in 1848 he made a second trip to this state.

When a boy of seventeen, Joseph Crediford rounded the Horn for San Francisco, where he was going in search of gold; and immediately on arrival in the bustling seaport town, he went to the mining section and there took up mining, in time amassing a fortune. On account of failing health, caused by the exposure necessary to mining, he removed to Santa Clara county, but was not benefited; and then he sailed for the Hawaiian Islands, where he recovered his health and became a man of large affairs. He married there Sarah Johnson, of English descent, but born in the Islands. They became parents of seven children, of whom five are living. These are: Arthur F., in Pleyto, Cal.; Caroline, of this review; Mary E., Mrs. Coates of Hanford; Herbert, of Bradley; and Adela, who died in Paso Robles, on December 30, 1916.

Joseph Crediford was at different times engaged in business as a merchant, sugar planter, tanner and leather manufacturer. He made saddles and harness, and had a large stock ranch, upon which he afterwards raised taro, a native species of tuber. He met with success in his ventures, and became a prominent man on the islands, where he was well and favorably known. His wife died there; and in 1886 he came to California with his oldest son, and located a homestead of one hundred sixty acres in Indian valley, Monterey county. He then returned to Hawaii, closed out his holdings there and, in 1887, brought the rest of his children to this state. He also entered one hundred sixty acres, set out an orchard and vineyard of thirty acres, and was actively engaged in horticulture and farming until his death, on September 2, 1901, after a most unusually active and useful career.

Caroline was the oldest daughter. After the death of her mother she cared for the home and younger children with a mother's care, aiding her father in many ways to his success. She was educated in the Sacred Heart Convent in Honolulu until she came to California in 1887, with her father. She assisted with the household duties, continuing to preside over his home until she herself was married in December, 1893, at San Luis Obispo, to John Givens, a native of Ireland. He came to this country and this state, and in San Rafael engaged in gardening, later continuing in San Jose. On settling in San Luis Obispo County, he homesteaded eighty acres, one-half mile from Estrella, and afterward purchased three hundred twenty acres adjoining the Sacramento ranch. This he sold, in time, to the management of that ranch. He continued farming on his homestead until his death in 1902; and after that time Mrs. Givens operated the ranch with success until 1910, when

she purchased a home in Paso Robles at Fifteenth street and Riverside drive, where she resided until her marriage to Mr. McCann, having left the care of the ranch to her son, John E. Givens. Her other child, Robert D. Givens, lives at Palo Alto. Mr. and Mrs. McCann are members of the Catholic Church. In matters political, she is a Republican, while Mr. McCann is an adherent to Democratic doctrines and policies.

**JOHN BROPHY.**—Besides an honored name and the example of an upright, well-directed life, John Brophy has done his share in the service of his country. He was born in Kells, Ireland, April 16, 1849, and came to White Plains, N. Y., with his parents, Patrick and Mary (Mahoney) Brophy, when he was a lad three years old, soon afterwards moving to Janesville, Wis., where he was reared and attended the public schools. One of his brothers, Michael, served in Troop B, 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry, in the Civil War, and was wounded at the Battle of Pea Ridge; one other brother, Thomas, crossed the plains to Virginia City, Nev., in 1862. After his school days were over, John Brophy remained in the East for some years, in 1863 apprenticing himself to learn the trade of machinist in the Rock River Iron Works at Janesville; and there he remained until 1869. Going then to Hartford, Conn., he worked in Pratt & Whitney's machine shop about six months, and then went to Macon, Ga. The next few years were spent in traveling about the country working in various cities in different states, perfecting his trade; and during this time two years were passed in Houston, Tex., and a year in St. Louis.

In February, 1872, Mr. Brophy came to California and was employed in the machine shops of the Central Pacific, now the Southern Pacific Railroad, at Sacramento, after which he worked in leading shops in different cities of the state; and in 1887, at the sale of lands in Templeton, he bought his present ranch, on which he has made all the improvements and where his family have since had their home. Mr. Brophy was married near Grass Valley, on November 26, 1874, to Miss Clara A. Ganoung, a native of Rockford, Ill., and a daughter of Myron Ganoung, who was born at Lima, N. Y., and was killed April 6, 1862, at the Battle of Shiloh, while serving as sergeant in the 56th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. Mrs. Ganoung was in maidenhood Mary L. Bates, a native of Syracuse, N. Y., and taught school from the age of sixteen years until, at the age of nineteen, she married Mr. Ganoung. After her husband's death, Mrs. Ganoung sold the farm and removed with her parents to Illinois, locating on the Pecatonica river near Durand, Winnebago county. Then, in 1864, with her two little girls, she accompanied her sister and the latter's husband, Samuel Kincaid, across the plains, locating near Grass Valley, California. In 1869, Mrs. Ganoung married L. N. Ritchie and in February, 1869, buried her eldest daughter, Flora, who, previous to the time of her death, had been finishing her education in the convent at Grass Valley. Mr. and Mrs. Ritchie left Nevada county in 1892 and came to San Luis Obispo County with their daughter, Mrs. Brophy, locating near Templeton, where Mr. Ritchie passed away in 1898. Mrs. Ritchie died at the home of her daughter eight years later, in 1906, when nearly eighty years of age.

Mrs. Brophy, the only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ganoung after the death of Flora, their eldest daughter, finished her education in the local schools of Grass Valley and resided there until her marriage. Since then she

[10] \_\_\_\_\_ her husband, who for a while worked as



machinist and served his country in the navy and navy yard. She managed the farm and looked to the education of their six children—Flora May, Mrs. Gibson of Los Osos; Myron, a butcher in Fresno; Ella, the wife of W. J. Williams of Turlock; Benjamin, also a butcher in Fresno; Andrew S., who operates the home farm; and Alice H., who is attending the Paso Robles high school.

In 1898, while employed in the machine shops of the Southern Pacific railroad in Sacramento, Mr. Brophy enlisted for service in the Spanish-American war. He was chief machinist on the cruiser "Philadelphia" for one year, when he was honorably discharged by reason of the expiration of his time. He then worked in the Mare Island Navy Yard for some time, helping to build various vessels; but after about thirteen years spent there, he resigned, thinking that he had put in time enough at his trade, and came home where his family had lived all the years he was working. He also spent five years in the Waite machine shop in San Luis Obispo, since his residence in the county. Mr. Brophy is a member of the Spanish-American War veterans, H. W. Lawton Camp at Vallejo. He is an Independent Republican in politics and is a self-made and highly respected citizen in the county.

**ALEX FRANKLIN GIBSON.**—In this day and age attention is being turned towards the scientific side of farming—making two blades of grass grow where one grew before; and this trend in agriculture is illustrated in the career of Alex F. Gibson, a promising rancher and dairyman in the Templeton district. He is a native of this county, born on his father's ranch (now leased by him) on November 27, 1895, a son of John C. and Flora (Hazell) Gibson, who are residents of San Luis Obispo. The elder Gibson bought land on Paso Robles creek four miles from Templeton and began improving a home, adding acreage by purchase from time to time, until he owned eighteen hundred acres of fine farming and grazing land, upon which he has made such success as to enable him to retire from active labors and enjoy with his wife all the comforts of life away from the cares attached to ranching.

John and Flora Gibson became parents of five children: George A., who died in infancy; John, in Paso Robles; Edna, Mrs. Pearl of Carson City, Nev.; Helen, Mrs. Neilsen, of San Francisco; and Alex F., who was reared on the home ranch and attended the public school in the Oakdale district, and then took a course in the State Polytechnic School at San Luis Obispo, and was graduated in 1914, after which he returned to the ranch and leased the dairy established by his father and began dairying and stockraising on his own account.

In 1915 he bought a half interest in the cattle, numbering about one hundred head, and carried on a dairy of twenty-five cows until 1916, when, with George Fruits, he leased the eighteen hundred acres, which they operate together as a grain and dairy ranch, raising large quantities of wheat and barley. They have about four hundred acres in grain and hay. The business is growing under the judicious management of Mr. Gibson and his partner, who have entered into the undertaking with a full knowledge of the responsibilities it entails. Mr. Gibson is alive to the needs of the county and is a booster for modern facilities in every branch of farming. He is a Republican and is an attendant of the Presbyterian Church.



**H. H. COLBY, D. O.**—How many men successful in professional work owe what they have accomplished to persisting in their pursuit of an ideal, although compelled for the time being to follow deviating paths and meet experiences more calculated to discourage than to inspire! Such, at least, was the experience of H. H. Colby, osteopath and director of the golf links at the Paso Robles Hot Springs Hotel, who was born at Great Barrington, in the green Berkshires of Massachusetts, January 3, 1876. There, also, his father, Alfred R. Colby, was born, a skilled carpenter whose brother, George, had an honorable record in the Civil War as a member of the 46th Pennsylvania Regiment. In April, 1888, Alfred Colby brought his family to Los Angeles, where they remained until June, when they came to Mayfield. For five years following he was employed in assisting to build Stanford University, much of the time being engaged in fine finishing work, in which his son, Albert, also took part.

Alfred Colby married Susan Redgrave, a native of London, and the daughter of Stephen Redgrave, who married Martha Lincoln, in turn the daughter of one of the well-known hatters of London, now advertising as Lincoln & Bennett. Grandfather Stephen Redgrave had taken the family to Australia; but after mining at Ballarat he returned to England, from which country he migrated to Norfolk, Va. There he located a farm adjoining Norfolk which he called Redgrave Farm; but dissatisfied with the southern country he went to British Columbia and settled at Golden, where he became sheriff and judge of Kootenay district, dying there at the age of eighty-eight. At the time of his death he held the position of recorder of births and deaths. In the same neighborhood his wife also passed away. Mr. Colby's father and mother were married in Massachusetts. The mother died in 1895, at Berkeley, Cal. After the death of his wife, Alfred Colby returned east, where he married again. He came back to Paso Robles, but now resides at Santa Cruz, the father, by the second marriage, of four children, all of whom are still living. Sanford is in Modesto; Herman and Raymond are at Paso Robles; and Dorothy is at home.

Besides the subject of our sketch, the children by Mr. Colby's first marriage were Alfred, Robert and Grace, who died in their youth, and Albert Richard, who is now in Victoria, B. C. From his twelfth year, when he completed the grammar school, H. H. Colby was brought up in California. He commenced ranch work in the Cholame Valley, in 1891, where his mother had a farm devoted to grain and stock-raising. The following year he went north to Victoria, and there labored at the plumber's trade, but in the fall of 1894 he returned to the Cholame ranch.

In the middle of the nineties Mr. Colby began a business course at Hariman's Commercial College in San Francisco, following which he studied osteopathy with Dr. Wilson in the metropolis, practicing, on the receipt of his diploma, in Victoria and Vancouver. When his mother died, however, he returned to the home ranch and operated it until 1899, when he came back to Victoria and entered the service of the Canadian Pacific Railway Navigation Co., serving as steward on their boats running to Alaska. In 1901, he was transferred to the Vancouver run, but the following year he resigned.

In August, 1902, at Vancouver, Mr. Colby and Miss Dorothy Margaret Engle, a native of St. Louis, were joined in wedlock, and after the marriage the bridegroom went to work for the B. C. Milling, Trading & Lumber Co.

In December of that year he once more returned to the Cholame ranch, and engaged in farming, taking charge also of the Wallace ranch until he went to Hanford, where he was employed by the J. K. Armsby Packing Co. The next year or two found him again on the ranch, but after the San Francisco fire, in 1906, he located in Paso Robles, where he followed carriage painting, and in the evenings practiced osteopathy.

In 1910, Mr. Colby took charge of the Paso Robles golf links, with Mr. Bendelow, of Chicago; the latter laying them out and Mr. Colby putting in the ground and completing them. Now he is in charge of the links and gives instruction in the playing of golf to guests who come from all over the United States, Canada and Europe.

Mr. Colby owns a residence on Spring street. The family estate still includes the ranch of a hundred sixty acres in Cholame, which is leased to other parties. He is recording secretary of the Independent Order of Foresters, is a very wide-awake Socialist and student of sociological affairs, and in matters religious follows the faith and form of worship of the Episcopal Church.

**ALBERT HOLMES.**—Hard work and good management bring success. This is evidenced in the progress made by Albert Holmes, a successful farmer in the Paso Robles section of the county. He was born in Cordova, Ill., October 28, 1884, a son of Gus Holmes, a native of Vermland, Sweden, born in 1854. The name was originally spelled Holm, but was changed for convenience when Gus Holmes came to the United States in 1871 and settled in Pennsylvania. In Sweden he had worked in the mines until he was twenty, and then was in the employ of the railroad for seven years, becoming conductor. From Pennsylvania he removed to Cordova, Illinois, thence to Iowa, and three years later to Roslyn, Wash., where he was employed in the coal mines until 1888. Then he came to San Luis Obispo County and was soon engaged in farming on rented land, and now owns forty acres at Linne, and another ranch, and is engaged in farming and raising stock. He married Christine Nelson, who now is deceased.

Brought up in San Luis Obispo County and attending the schools in the district of Linne, Albert Holmes early learned to handle horses and drive big teams. When he had reached his majority, he rented part of the Dresser tract for three years and raised grain; then leased four hundred acres of the West Coast Land Co. and ran it six years, accumulating equipment and stock, as well as experience, and establishing himself in the estimation of his fellow citizens. In 1914 he rented six hundred seventy acres of the Huntington place, and now operates two big teams and is putting in two hundred eighty acres of wheat and eighty of barley. He also operates a small twelve-horse combined harvester, and with two men cut over five hundred acres in 1916 in less than two months' time.

In San Luis Obispo occurred the marriage of Albert Holmes and Hattie Jackson, who was born near Cholame, a daughter of Milton B. and Julia (Sumner) Jackson, and a granddaughter of Andrew Jackson, who brought the family from Georgia and is now living in this county. To Mr. and Mrs. Albert Holmes, six children have been born: Elmer, Pearl, Ruby, Helen, Elva and Lillie. Mr. and Mrs. Holmes are Republicans, and have won a place in the social life of the community, where they have lived for so many years.

**MRS. EMMA KUEHL.**—The wonderful executive ability shown by women who, in America, and particularly in California, have invaded the various departments of business enterprise until recently occupied almost exclusively by men, is illustrated in the career of Mrs. Emma Kuehl, the owner of a fine large ranch and one of the most up-to-date farmers in this section. Born in Neu-Stettin, one of the delightful cities of Pomerania, Germany, she was the youngest child of Julius Steffen, a merchant, whom she scarcely saw, for her father died when she was little more than a baby. Her mother, also born in that section of Pomerania, was Bertha Bartz, a daughter of Gustav Bartz, a large farmer owning three hundred twenty acres of land.

When Mr. Steffen died, his wife continued the mercantile business, but turned the farm over to her eight children, three of whom are still living. Educated in the excellent public schools of Germany, Fraulein Steffen, in 1890, came to America, and settled in Watertown, Codington county, S. D., where, in the same year, she married Julius Kuehl, also a native of Neu-Stettin. They engaged in farming fifteen miles southeast of Watertown until 1896, when they removed to Paso Robles, and afterwards to Creston. There, for six years, they raised grain, and so well did they succeed that they bought a ranch of five hundred twenty acres two miles northwest of Union, which they operated until 1909, when it was sold and they purchased the present place of six hundred forty acres on Estrella Plains, ultimately selling two hundred thirty acres of the tract.

More than four hundred acres of fine farming land devoted to grain and stock raising are now registered under the name of Mrs. Kuehl. In the management of her extensive farming interests Mrs. Kuehl's two sons, William and Otto, ably assist her, Otto operating the home farm, while William is leasing and operating five hundred eighty acres near the home place. They both make their home with their mother. A daughter, Minnie, is now Mrs. Crinklaw, of Ventura county.

**OSCAR F. ERICKSON.**—Whoever has once enjoyed a vacation ramble in the valleys and among the mountains of picturesque Sweden might well be excused, despite an enthusiastic devotion to California, for wondering why anyone should leave that rich pastoral land, even for the treasures of the New World. The fact that Oscar F. Erickson, a native of that part of Scandinavia, not only came to America, but willingly remained in the Golden State, speaks for itself, for Mr. Erickson knows, if anyone does, all that goes to make up a delightful country. Born in Smaaland, Sweden, on February 23, 1851, the only son, of two children, he had the usual experience of a farm boy in attendance at the public schools, and was married when he was but twenty-one years of age. His father was Erick Erickson, and he survived his wife for many years. His mother was Karen (Monson) Erickson, and she

00 00 00

On the twenty-seventh day of the most delightful month in Sweden, the month of June, Mr. Erickson led to the altar Miss Wilhelmina Swansen, the daughter of Carl Swansen, a prosperous farmer, and Inga Charlotta (Jacobson) Swansen. Following his marriage, he took up farming, and owned a small acreage in Smaaland, which, in time, he sold. In 1877, he came to Minnesota, bringing his wife and mother-in-law with him, and there Mrs. Erickson's mother died. Her father had passed away in Sweden in 1868. He bought eighty acres adapted to agriculture, but ten years later sold it

in order to come to California, where he acquired, near the Bethel School House, a hundred thirty acres.

On this little farm he tilled the soil for fourteen years, when he sold out and located about three and a half miles southwest of Paso Robles. There he has one of the finest displays of choice stock and some of the best-kept grain fields in the state. Four children of five born to this worthy couple—Carl Frederick, in the hardware and implement business in Nevada; Hilma, Mrs. A. T. Lovgren, resident of the Linne district; Emily, who married Albert Johnson, living near Templeton; Esther, who became Mrs. Pike, of Paso Robles—still live to brighten Mr. and Mrs. Erickson's life. Albert L. Erickson died at the age of twenty-nine.

Once a trustee of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Templeton, and now a deacon, Mr. Erickson has been for years superintendent of the Sunday School, while his wife is prominent in the Ladies' Aid Society. In politics M. Erickson is a Republican.

**CHARLES SAMUEL LEWIS.**—Whoever has strolled about the shady streets of comfortable-looking and comfortably-living Paso Robles must have been agreeably impressed with the many artistically designed and well-built residences there, particularly those of the modern bungalow pattern, some of which are the result of the fertile brain and architectural skill of Charles Samuel Lewis, the successful contractor and builder who has of late been making his mark there. Born in Anamosa, Jones county, Ia., on November 7, 1881, Mr. Lewis is the grandson of Charles Lewis, who was born near Philadelphia, a member of an old Quaker family, well-known in the City of Brotherly Love, and who became one of the earliest settlers at Anamosa. Just what type of man he was may be deduced from his own history and that of his descendants. All his sons graduated from the Ames Agricultural College. In time he moved to Orange City, Sioux county, Ia., and there he engaged so successfully in the real estate and land business that he was able, some eighteen years ago, to retire and make his way westward to the charming residential city of Pasadena. The father of Charles, H. P. Lewis, was born in Iowa. He became a printer and for years edited the Sioux County Herald, after which he, too, removed to Pasadena, where he became the foreman of the News office. When he retired he removed to Paso Robles, taking his wife with him—formerly Miss Annie Buxton, a native of Iowa.

Eight children were born to this couple, and Charles Lewis was the eldest of them all. It happened, therefore, that he was brought up in Orange City, Ia., and attended the public schools there; and he went to Plankinton, S. D., where he graduated from the high school. At Moscow, Ida., he attended the State Agricultural College, and in 1904 he removed to Pasadena. There, for six years, he worked for D. M. Renton, and later he was with R. F. Foss. In 1911, he came to Paso Robles, and as he had studied electrical engineering, the manager of Paso Robles Hot Springs Hotel was fortunate to secure him as its engineer. After two and a half years in that berth he resigned to engage in contracting and building, and since 1914 the firm of Lewis Bros. (which includes his brother, Frank E. Lewis, who also learned his trade in Pasadena) has been a leading force in the advancement of architectural taste in this vicinity. How well Charles improved under the instruction given him in architecture by the International Correspondence School, at Scranton, may be seen in the handsome Steiner residence, the

Sanitarium, the Kirkpatrick and the Arthur Kitchen homes, and the Carl Carling and Frank Fleissig dwellings, all of which, with other places in the country, have been designed and built by him.

A Republican who does something when it has to be done, and a member of the Chamber of Commerce who makes his presence felt by modest but hard work, Mr. Lewis was conspicuous in his identification with the Upper Salinas Valley Fair of 1916, when he had charge of the laying out of the buildings and grounds.

Some years ago Charles was married in Los Angeles to Miss Venila E. Spicer, a native of Ripon, Wis., the Rev. Baker P. Lee officiating; from this marriage two charming children, Eleanor Clare, and Henry Spicer, have been born. While attending the Christ Episcopal Church in Los Angeles, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis contributed much to the fame of the church's choir, Mrs. Lewis singing soprano and her husband tenor, and quite naturally since their advent at Paso Robles they have done their part toward maintaining local musical standards. Mr. Lewis is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America, the Foresters, and the Knights of Pythias, all of Paso Robles.

**ARTHUR THRALLS.**—With neither capital nor business backing behind him, but endowed with unusual tact, tenacity of purpose and native ability, Arthur Thralls has had phenomenal success as a merchant in the town of San Miguel. He was born in Sangamon county, Ill., on October 13, 1872, the son of James C. and Mary (Hammond) Thralls, an interesting biographical sketch of whom is a separate feature of this work. Arthur Thralls removed with his parents to Oswego, Labette county, Kan., where he attended the public school, and he afterward lived at Gaylord, in the same state. From a lad he made himself useful to his father, and worked with him at blacksmithing; and he also learned tinning, carpentering, decorating and painting. But he did not take to any of these occupations permanently; merchandising was destined to be his forte. For a while, however, his poor health conditioned his activity; and going to San Miguel, where his brother, F. C. Thralls, was residing, he spent the winter outdoors in the hills chopping trees and wood. His next employment was with the San Miguel Flour Mills, and after that he was for a while with the S. P. Warehouse Co., still later returning to the mills.

He then ventured to invest in an ice-cream and confectionery stand, for which he had managed to get together the modest sum of twenty dollars, but in three months he sold out, and for the third time was back in the dusty mill. At the end of twenty-six months, he bought out another ice-cream establishment, and embarked in business for himself in what was certainly a novel form. It was the year of the dry season and, loading the ice-cream plant on a wagon, he traveled with it into and through Mariposa county, stopping at hotels and ranch houses.

Returning to San Miguel, he bought out the ice-cream and confectionery place he had originally owned and then borrowed twenty dollars of the thirty-five dollars he paid for the place; and now success rewarded his energy to such a degree that he was able to pay off his debt, enlarge his business, and little by little add other lines of goods. He started in a mere corner, only the half of a small store, but later he secured the other half and soon took in a partner, Fred Metzler, although he maintained the firm name of Thralls

& Co. They then purchased the present site, built their iron building, 32x100, and moved into it. Two years after this, Henry Twisselmann bought out Mr. Metzler, to remain a partner since of Thralls & Co. As their business increased they found it necessary to erect their imposing concrete building adjoining on Main street, 28x100 feet in size; and they have added, besides, a rear warehouse, 50x100 feet, and also a plumbing and hardware shop, 25x150 feet in size. In the concrete building is located the branch of the Citizens Bank of Paso Robles.

During this time Mr. Thralls purchased a site and organized the Mission Warehouse Co., building upon the ground a corrugated iron building devoted to storing hay. His partners in this enterprise are John Work, who serves as president, M. D. Sanchez and Henry Twisselmann, Mr. Thralls being director and manager. With such foresight had this undertaking been planned that the warehouse has a storage capacity of over 1,500 tons. In the store of Thralls & Co. referred to, now the largest mercantile establishment in the northern part of San Luis Obispo County, and all grown to its present proportions within the last sixteen years, there are departments for the sale of dry goods, groceries, clothing and furnishings, shoes, jewelry, hardware, furniture, harness, implements and plumbing. The firm also have their own vegetable gardens of twenty-four acres on the Salinas river, and from there they ship vegetables and fruit to Paso Robles and other points in the county, not less than five acres being devoted to strawberries alone.

At Indian Valley, Monterey county, Mr. Thralls was married to Miss Ina May Young, by whom he has had one daughter, Leah. Doubtless some of his business success is due to this excellent woman, who has shared his joys and his sorrows. His mother still tells how fond Arthur was, when a mere child, of "playing store" with the other children, an imitation stroke of mercantile enterprise, employing currency made by her, in which the energetic lad was always more proficient than any of his playmates; for it was he who invariably secured the coveted money. In San Miguel Lodge No. 285, Mr. Thralls was made a Mason; he is a member of the Eastern Star and San Miguel Lodge No. 340, I. O. O. F., and also of the Fraternal Brotherhood.

**GUSTAV ROBERT FREDRICKSON.** Prominent among all the clever workers of ancient times, figuring conspicuously in history, song and fairy tales, honored for his rugged honesty and esteemed for his skill so necessary to the comfort and welfare of his fellow-men, the shoemaker has been the handiworker sought by kings and the powerful of the earth, and his humble prosperity was the envy even of those who made pretense to a higher station. All of which may suggest, perhaps, why Gustav Robert Fredrickson, maker of shoes and harness at Templeton, and treasurer of its Board of Trade, has always been and continues to be popular in the community of his adoption. Born at Stora-Tuna, Dalene, Sweden, on February 3, 1872, he was brought up as one of three children living in the family of Fredrick Fredrickson, his father, who was a farmer, and Henrika Charlotte (Holmsten) Fredrickson, who found her highest pleasure in making the old Swedish farm-house the cosiest and most attractive home in all its district.

In 1888, when booming California was being advertised even to the Old World, Fredrick Fredrickson brought his family to the Coast and to Chino,

then to Riverside and, in 1889, to Templeton where he found employment with the Southern Pacific Railroad. Eventually he retired and died here; and here were laid to rest the remains of his excellent wife. The other children are: Albion, who resides in Los Angeles, and Henry, who is in St. Joseph, Mo.

Gustav attended the public schools, and when ten years old was apprenticed to a shoemaker to learn that time-honored trade. He worked at it winters, and when only twelve years of age made his first pair of shoes, getting in when he could, until he was seventeen years of age, such additional schooling as the law required. On his arrival in California and Riverside, however, he found that laborers in the orchards rather than shoemakers were required, and so for nine or ten months he took to orcharding.

In August, 1889, when he arrived in Templeton, he engaged to work upon the railroad; but only for a month. Then he established the business so long and so favorably associated with his name, beginning on a very small scale, and opening a shoemaker's shop in the harness store of F. W. Muggler. There he learned the harness-making trade, and worked at it, and when Mr. Muggler sold his establishment to T. F. Hood, Gustav continued in charge of the harness store. In 1892, he bought Mr. Hood out and, making no changes beyond a natural expansion of the business, remained at the old stand until he moved to his present corner in 1887; for having bought the corner lot, he moved a building onto it. He has made and repaired harness since 1892, his familiar sign being a guarantee for the quality of the wares so artistically displayed in his well-arranged windows.

At Los Angeles, some years ago, Gustav Fredrickson was married to Miss Hilma Nelson, a daughter of Henry Nelson, who came from Iowa, where she was born, and was one of the pioneers of this vicinity. One son, Melvin, is the issue of this marriage. Having taken a very active part in the local fire department, Gustav Fredrickson has been a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners, now serving as its chairman; but it is as a very active worker in, and as treasurer of the Board of Trade, that he has perhaps contributed most in civic work. Always popular socially, he has also participated actively in the Fraternal Brotherhood.

**JOHN ALBION KIMBALL.**—John Albion Kimball was born in Portland, Me., on March 1, 1865. His parents, Willard Snell and Sarah Annie (Philbrick) Kimball, natives of Augusta and Cooper's Mills, Me., respectively, were both descendants of the first Puritan Pilgrims who landed on Plymouth Rock.

John Albion Kimball was but nine years of age when he was brought to California by his parents, in 1874, and his education was obtained in the public schools of this county, in several private schools and at the Hesperian Academy, then located in San Luis Obispo. At the age of eighteen years, he passed the teacher's examination and taught in the public schools for two years.

He then read law with Adams & Gregg, of San Luis Obispo, for two years, after which he attended the University of Michigan, graduating from the law department of the University in 1889, receiving the degree of LL. B. He was admitted to the practice of law in the State of Michigan in 1889, and by the Supreme Court of California in the same year, after which he returned to San Luis Obispo, and opened an office, later on associating himself with



his brother, Frank Willard Kimball, under the firm name of Kimball & Kimball.

In 1893 he went to San Francisco, where for the next five years he was again associated with his brother in the general practice of his profession. There the firm of Kimball & Kimball built up a large and lucrative practice, after which he returned to San Luis Obispo and retired from the profession.

Mr. Kimball always took an active interest in fruit culture, and in 1907 purchased forty acres of land on Vachell avenue. This was raw land, and on it he has developed one of the largest and finest commercial orchards in the county. It is called one of the "show places" of the county, and is absolutely free from tree disease. Mr. Kimball has been eminently successful in fruit culture, having created several new varieties, which he contemplates propagating in the near future; and he is now considered one of the foremost horticulturists in the state.

Mr. Kimball has always been an active Republican, although never an aspirant for office. He is a Mason, a member of Mount Moriah Lodge and Mission Chapter of San Francisco. His marriage was celebrated in that city, May 10, 1901, when he was united to Edith Nelson, a native of San Francisco, born December 16, 1875. She is a niece of the late Frank Pixley. Her father was George Henry Nelson, born in New York state, and her mother, Sarah Ann Van Reymegen Nelson, was a native of Bath, Me., and a descendant of old Puritan stock.

Two children blessed this union of John Albion and Mrs. Kimball, Roy John Albion and Charles Nelson.

**RAMON N. BARBA.**—The good blood of so many old and honorable families is so often represented in the rank and file of sturdy California citizenship that it is particularly interesting when two well-known families of pioneers are joined, as in the case of Ramon Barba, the enterprising young farmer and stockman at Creston, and his excellent young wife. Born in San Luis Obispo in 1882, Ramon's father is Refugio Barba, a native of Sonora, Mexico, who came to San Luis Obispo County when a young man, and followed the stock business here, riding the range in the vicinity of Paso Robles and eastward toward the Kern county plains. For four years he was located in San Luis Obispo, and then he moved to Paso Robles, where he engaged in ranching and stock-raising, finally buying a ranch, four miles west of Paso Robles, in the Manzanita country. For some time he farmed one hundred eighty acres there, and when he sold out he returned to Paso Robles where, at the age of seventy-six, he now resides.

Ramon's mother, on the other hand, had been Jacinta Sanavero, the daughter of a pioneer who settled at San Luis Obispo. Her father was born in Spain, of Castilian parents, and settled in San Luis Obispo County as a cabinet maker, and also manufactured caskets. In March, 1916, at the age of fifty-three, she died in Paso Robles, the mother of sixteen children, fourteen of whom are still living.

The third oldest of this vigorous family, Ramon Barba was educated in the Encinal and Bethel districts, and at the age of fifteen went to work on a farm, where he learned the stock business and the raising of grain. He proved a reliable boy, getting up at six o'clock in the morning and riding far after the cattle. In 1908, he began farming for himself, leasing land on the Ambrose estate in the Creston country, and there raising grain and stock



He controls about five hundred acres, and puts in about half of that area each year to grain.

On October 24, 1907, the marriage of Ramon Barba and Miss Hazel Willson was celebrated in old San Luis Obispo. The fair lady had been born in the Highland school district, the daughter of Henry Willson, a native of the same section. Her mother was formerly Miss Sarah Shepherd, a native daughter. Mrs. Barba was educated in the public schools. Two children have resulted from this union—Raymond and Dolly.

While not a politician in any sense of the word, Mr. Barba takes a live interest in political affairs, and in the exercise of his franchise generally votes according to Republican preferences.

**THADDEUS SHERMAN.**—With what pleasure Longfellow, when he was penning his famous and sympathetic sketch of the Village Blacksmith, would have looked upon Thaddeus Sherman, one of the finest old men in San Luis Obispo county, those who know this master pioneer of Paso Robles will readily discern. A native of Van Buren, Wayne county, Mich., where he was born far back on February 15, 1833, he grew up in the home of a shoemaker, James Sherman, a New Yorker by birth, who followed the trade with his last until he died. His mother, Mabel Sherman, was one of those rare, old-fashioned souls whose home influence was worth far more than that of the plain public schools at the disposal of young Thaddeus.

Finished with his books and slates, Thaddeus was apprenticed to a wagon-maker; and as early as 1857, when he was but twenty-four years of age, he underwent the rough experience of a voyage by way of Panama, and reached San Francisco, then a very different and far more insignificant place than the majority of readers of these notes ever found it. Pushing on after a while to Sacramento, and then to Nevada, he maintained carriage and wagon shops until the pesky Indians drove him out from the latter State. Once more plying his trade in Sacramento, he remained there until the promising settlement at Cambria induced him to transfer his establishment, and a few years later, that is in 1875, he came to Paso Robles, where he bought forty acres from Blackburn and built another shop, for which he engaged an extra blacksmith from San Francisco.

During the development that marked progressive Paso Robles, and thereby astonished the outside world, he soon subdivided a good part of his land and built himself a handsome residence, at the corner of Oak and Twenty-third streets, where he has enjoyed life since his active participation in business. Twice was Thaddeus Sherman married, his second wife dying only four years ago; and but one of two children is still living to comfort him, Wilbur J. having passed away.

As a Mason, he was a charter member of San Simeon Lodge, F. & A. M., at Cambria, and he also helped to start Paso Robles Lodge, No. 286, F. & A. M., serving as its first Master. A Democrat, he has always displayed a live interest in the problems and duties of good citizenship. After a life of strenuous activity and sober living, it is sad to experience what has befallen Mr. Sherman in his later years. A second stroke of paralysis has afflicted him, but this does not sour his geniality nor chill his enthusiasm as one who can proudly boast of having owned and platted over forty acres, and who has such optimism and confidence in the future of Paso Robles.

**WILLIAM THOMAS COLBECK.**—It was a lucky day in 1892 when William Thomas Colbeck came to California, and a still luckier day in 1915 when he settled in San Luis Obispo County, for he is one of those ranchmen whom any district is glad to attract, and San Luis Obispo County and Templeton have proven the regions of all the world in which he would willingly cast his lines. His father, Thomas Colbeck, a native of England, was an expert stone mason and bricklayer, who contributed his labor and skill to the completion of many buildings between New York and Chicago, and who finally settled in Ohio, where he married Miss Mary Potter.

At Athens, O., on February 11, 1883, William Thomas was born, the third eldest of six children, all of whom are living. His father then moved to Kansas City, Missouri, where he worked at his trade, and in the early nineties migrated still farther west until he reached California and Fillmore, Ventura county, where he cut building stone in the brownstone quarries for San Francisco and Los Angeles, abandoning that work when he saw the opportunity of setting himself up as a cement-work contractor and a builder of bridges for the railroad and the county. He next improved a farm at Sespe, and now owns one hundred fifty acres with a fine orchard.

William Colbeck was educated near Fillmore, and as a lad he worked as a box maker in a packing-house, where he made four hundred boxes a day. He next went into the Imperial Valley and raised a cotton crop; and in 1915 he came to San Luis Obispo County as manager of a part of the old Wightman Ranch, now owned by O. E. Brown. Here he operates four hundred fourteen acres devoted to stock and to fruit-raising, and also has charge of some forty acres of orchard planted to fine quality apples and pears.

Mr. Colbeck is a keen observer of politics, and a believer especially in Democratic doctrine. Mr. Colbeck enjoys the pleasures of domestic life, having married at San Luis Obispo, on October 6, 1916, Mrs. Anna (Olds) Ness, a native of Kansas, who by a former marriage has three children—Howard, Callie and Erdie.

**JOHN TAYLOR.**—The name of John Taylor is inseparably interwoven with the history of the coast section of San Luis Obispo County, to which Peter Taylor, keen and far-seeing in judgment, a brother of John, came in 1863, or soon after. He was followed by James and John, and later by their father, also named John Taylor, who was born in Perthshire, Scotland, a weaver by trade, as was his father, Peter Taylor, who was a soldier in the Welsh army and a ranking officer at the Battle of Waterloo. John Taylor, Sr., married Janet Crerar in Scotland and they had six children. Peter died in San Luis Obispo County; Lillis became Mrs. Russell of Cambria; James served in the Civil War and died in San Luis Obispo County; Ellen is Mrs. Whitaker of Cambria; John is the subject of this review; and Janette died in New York. The mother died in Scotland, leaving her husband with six small children. In 1851 he brought his family to America and settled in Delaware county, N. Y., where he farmed and raised stock until the fall of 1869, when he sold out and came to California, living in this county until his death in January, 1882, aged seventy years. He was a strong Presbyterian.

John Taylor of this review was born in Blockford, Perthshire, Scotland, and received his education there and in New York, whither his father had emigrated in 1851. He was reared on the home farm in Colchester, and in the fall of 1868 came to California with his brother James. Taking the

steamer "Alaska" to Aspinwall and crossing the isthmus, they boarded the "Sacramento" for San Francisco; and on arriving there, proceeded to San Luis Obispo County to join their brother, Peter Taylor, who was living on Santa Rosa creek.

Some time later, with his brother James and S. L. Whitaker, John engaged in the stock business at the head of Villa creek until the partnership was dissolved. He and his brother James then bought a ranch near Cambria, began dairying and ranching, and continued together until James passed away. They had outside interests and for years were engaged in lumbering, owning land covered with pine timber, which they logged and sold to sawmills. They hauled the timber to the mills with oxen and horses, and they also sold wood. They owned several ranches which were devoted to dairying and farming, and after the death of James the property was divided among the heirs and the partnership dissolved.

John Taylor is the owner of the Ocean ranch of three hundred acres, and also a ranch of 1,000 acres south of Cambria, which are leased for dairying. He still contracts for wood, supplying the mines on the coast. For many years he has made his home in Cambria and is known all over the county, for he has participated in all upbuilding movements hereabouts, and has won his success by hard work and square dealing.

**HERMAN ANDERSON.**—Not only among those sturdy citizens of his own nationality in his district does Herman Anderson stand high and wield an enviable influence, but he is also esteemed among and sought by his neighbors and friends of other national extraction. From quaint Middle Sweden, near Skara, he came, having been born there on February 12, 1873, the second youngest of ten children. His father was Sven Anderson, a farmer, who died in Sweden ten years ago, and his mother was Maria Anderson, who died in 1882. As a lad, Herman had about as much fun on the Swedish farm as he did at the public school, and yet when the call came in 1894 to leave his native land, and to come to the New World, he followed the duty that pointed the way to his future fortune, although his father was a thrifty and well-to-do farmer in Sweden and able to give his son a start there.

On the 4th of May he arrived at Templeton, traveling on the first train to come through the Santa Margarita tunnel, and for a year or so he worked for his brother, J. S. Anderson, farming, pressing hay and threshing. The next summer he ran a hay-baler at Hollister, and for several seasons he worked in the orchards and dairies near San Jose. In 1904, he bought his first piece of land, seventy-five acres, in the Oakdale school district, and went in for grain-raising, at which he continued for five years. Since that time he has leased the place.

About 1909 he bought his present ranch of eighty-one acres, and afterwards added another forty-four acres adjoining; and onto this land he moved just seven years ago. This property he has improved until he has a splendid and fertile ranch of one hundred twenty-five acres, which he has operated for the raising of wheat, barley and hay, the land being splendidly watered by streams and springs.

In civil affairs, Mr. Anderson is a Progressive Republican; while in things that pertain to his religious experience he follows the customs and creed of the Swedish Lutheran Church, being affiliated as a member with that organization at Templeton.

**A. AUGUST ZIMMERMAN.**—The history of the development of California from a primitive and unsettled state to one of the foremost and most civilized commonwealths in the nation, is the record of thousands who have bravely battled, as pioneers blazing the way, with adverse conditions and the inevitable, one man perhaps in a hundred winning out because, despite the most discouraging failures and losses, he continued to peg away in the effort to reach the goal. Such a man is A. August Zimmerman, the well-traveled and highly intelligent shoemaker, who has been a resident of California since 1886, and a citizen working for the upbuilding of Paso Robles since 1908. His birthplace was the old town of Magdeburg, Germany, where his family had lived for several generations. His grandfather Zimmerman came to Germany from France, and his father was Andrew Zimmerman, a native of the Fatherland, who was a foreman in a large smelting works, and was accidentally killed when a mass of the ore fell upon him. His mother's maiden name was Louise Heinecke, and her parents for generations were farming folk. She brought up a family of nine children, making of them useful men and women; and in 1887, having well performed her duty, she passed to her eternal reward.

The youngest child in the family, and the only one in California, August was brought up in Magdeburg, and attended the public schools there. At the age of fourteen, he was apprenticed to a shoemaker and for four years learned the shoemaking trade; and having worked in a real German workshop, it is fair to assume that he learned the trade well.

When eighteen, he concluded to come to America, being influenced no doubt by the fact that he already had a brother, Andrew, who was living in Cleveland, O. To Cleveland, then, he traveled, and in 1878 began to work there at his trade. But being full of ambition, he did something more than make or repair shoes; he studied English, and learned to read, write and speak our rather confusing language. Then he went to St. Louis, and next to Texas, where he visited nearly every county in the state. He ran a shoe shop at Fort Worth, Richmond and Denton.

When the news of the great boom in California, in 1886, reached him in the Lone Star State, young Zimmerman packed up his belongings and hurried off to Los Angeles. He opened there another shoe shop, but, like thousands of others, he turned aside to deal in a little real estate, overreached himself, and lost all he had.

In 1888, Mr. Zimmerman went north to Seattle and opened a shop there, but he was soon burned out, and again he lost all that he had acquired. Then he engaged in prospecting for mining, returned to Portland, went to Butte City, and finally to Salt Lake, where he started another shop. In the spring of 1890 he returned east to Chicago, but he soon found it too cold there, and came back to balmier California. He fitted up another shop at Oakland, and there, on Washington street, he managed a very successful business for ten long years. In 1900, he went to Denver, and for seven years he had a shop in that city.

Yielding to his longing for the Coast, he traveled westward again to San Francisco, and in 1908, suffering terribly from rheumatism, he came to Paso Robles, where he both took the mud baths and drank the healing waters. In a short time he was so much improved that he concluded to remain; and deciding to cast in his lot with the town, he again began business in the

very place where he is now located. He liked the town, and bought a lot and business house on Park street between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets. He improved the shop, and gave such satisfaction to his patrons that his business has continued to grow ever since. He uses electric power to run the sewing and finishing machines, and in every way has an up-to-date equipment.

Mr. Zimmerman has probably traveled more than twenty thousand miles in his migrations. The places he has visited since he left Berlin, Germany, April 7, 1882, are: Baltimore, Cleveland, St. Louis; Cairo, Ill.; Marshall, Tex.; Little Rock, New Orleans, Houston, Richmond, Dallas, Ft. Worth; Weatherford and Denton, Tex.; San Francisco, Los Angeles; Seattle, Tacoma, Mt. Vernon and Slaughter, Wash.; Cascade Mountains; Vancouver and Victoria, B. C.; Portland; Pocatello, Idaho; Butte City, Ogden, Salt Lake City, Denver, Omaha, Chicago, Kansas City; San Antonio and Alpine, Tex.; Oakland, Fresno, and through the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys by team and wagon, as well as the Santa Clara valley, visiting the principal cities. He made a second trip into Washington and British Columbia, Utah and Colorado, and included many of the cities not visited before: Port Angeles, Wash., where he had a shop; Leadville, Cripple Creek, Victor, Colorado Springs, Pueblo and Canyon City, Colo.; Cheyenne, Wyo.; Galveston, Oklahoma City; Ely, Nev., and Covina, Cal., coming to Paso Robles in 1908.

Since then he has traveled over all of the central coast counties, and he is therefore very familiar with the Pacific Coast region.

While in Denver, Mr. Zimmerman was married to Miss Mary Schuman, who was born near Moscow, Russia, of German parentage, and who is now the mother of one child, Otto. The family are now living in the handsome Zimmerman residence.

A well-read man accustomed to reflect upon the events of the day and the problems of daily life, including those having to do with politics, Mr. Zimmerman is an independent thinker and voter, and endeavors every time to vote for the right man.

**HALVER PETERSON.**—Colorado is a wonderful commonwealth, but when it comes to a showdown with California, then Halver Peterson, at least, will go for the Golden State every time, as he did in the late eighties, after he had tried out the Centennial State and knew just what he was doing. Born on the 3rd of February, 1861, at Dalene, Sweden, Halver was the son of Peter A. Peterson, a farmer, who died in his native town, and of Brita (Erickson) Peterson. Four of the children born grew to maturity, although only two are now living—Halver alone being in America. He had the usual farm and public school experience of a Swedish lad, and at the age of nineteen, like thousands of others, came to the United States.

In 1880, he was in Boone county, Iowa, where he worked for the C. & N. W. R. R. for eight years—the last two as foreman. His wife's health prompting him to leave the State, he removed to San Luis Valley, Colo., where he homesteaded, improved the land, and sold what he had.

He then came to California, and on May 6, 1889, took up his residence at Paso Robles, from which place he went to Templeton, where he started in the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad, with which company he continued for three years. In the fall of 1890 he bought forty acres of the place he now owns, and a year and a half later located on it, making many im-

provements, among which were the building of a residence, the clearing of the land, and the planting of an orchard. Ten years later he bought the fifty-three acres adjoining, and since then has added enough to make a round ninety-five acres of land which he devotes to the raising of grain, horses and cattle. He also has a small dairy, the cream being shipped to San Luis Obispo.

While in Iowa, Halver Peterson married Miss Christene Olson, a native of Dalene, Sweden, by whom he has had six children. These are Bessie, now Mrs. Campbell in Berkeley; Christene, who was married to Albert Lovgren, of Los Angeles; Ellen, who became Mrs. Vogue, of Berkeley; Edna, better known as Mrs. Essig of the same city; Harold, who helps about the farm, and Clarence, who is clerking in Paso Robles. Mr. Peterson is a Republican in politics. For seven years he has been clerk of the school board of Bethel; and for six years he has been a deacon of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Templeton, where he is also a trustee and treasurer.

**JOHN J. FORD.**—If Paso Robles is blessed in any one particular respect, it is in the considerable number of professional men of ability who, ignoring the attractions of larger and more developed communities, have cast in their lot where the future lies smiling before them. Especially well represented here is the profession of the architect, and among those who well sustain the artistic ideal is John J. Ford, the contractor and builder, who has also made for himself some name as a horticulturist. Mr. Ford's native heath is old Hereford, in England, where, on the 12th of February, 1865, he first saw the light of day. His father was John Ford, also a contractor and builder. Commencing with the public schools, John J. next attended Harley House College in the East End of London, after which he went to the Hulm Cliff College in Derbyshire, where he graduated in 1886. Under the valuable instruction of his father he learned the carpenter's trade, and with the same veteran as a guide he worked for several years in England as a contractor. He also studied architecture in an office in Hereford. At the same time he took a course in the science and art of building and construction at the Hereford Science School; and being thus equipped he set sail, in April, 1888, for America, making his first stopping place at San Francisco.

There, for a year and a half, he was in the employ of others in architectural work, and then he became a foreman of building for Ransom & Cushing, and superintended part of the construction of the Museum and the Girls' Dormitory, or Roble Hall, at Stanford University. He also had charge of the erection of public and private buildings in many places in the adjoining bay cities. He was next with Wetmore and John Bashford, for whom he worked as foreman; but the big fire having destroyed what he possessed, he turned aside from the exercise of his professional talent, bought a ten-acre almond ranch at Acampo, in San Joaquin county, and for some years went in for horticulture.

In 1909, he sold out and moved to Paso Robles, and there secured thirteen acres of land west of the town on which he experimented with a variety of orchards. Within three years he sold that property, and moved to Long Beach to engage in contracting and building, but by 1915 he had traded some of his estate for two hundred thirty acres in the Encinal district, six miles west of Paso Robles, convinced that in respect to elevation, soil and rainfall he at last possessed the finest acreage for fruit culture. He soon had twenty-

six acres of pears and fifteen acres of almonds, and is preparing to set out still larger areas.

All this profitable diversion in experiments with the soil has not turned Mr. Ford aside permanently from the main work of his life, that of a master architect and builder, and he is still conducting his business as a contractor. He has lately superintended the building of the new grammar school at Paso Robles, and built the new school at Klau, as well as his own elegant residence, in which he resides with his family.

In San Francisco Mr. Ford met and married Grace M. Ormsby, a native of Michigan, by whom he has had two children—Dorothy, now wedded and an occasional visitor from the East, and Albert E. Ford, of Paso Robles. Mr. Ford is an elder in the Christian Church, in which, as a leader in singing, he takes an active part in musical work, as he did also, years ago, in the quartette of the First Christian Church in San Francisco.

**WILLIAM C. BAGBY.**—Among the citizens of the section of San Luis Obispo County that is tributary to Paso Robles, possibly no name is better known than that of William C. Bagby, who has demonstrated his business ability by his association with large interests, and whose integrity and honesty of purpose have never been questioned. A native son of the county, he was born at Arroyo Grande, September 28, 1885, a son of John W. Bagby, a Missourian who crossed the plains to California at an early day, mined for a time with indifferent success, and finally settled in Arroyo Grande in 1871, where he followed farming. Some time later he pre-empted and homesteaded land in the Adelaida section of the county and began raising cattle, increasing his bands year by year until he became one of the large stockmen of the county. As he prospered, he bought land until he became owner of two thousand acres.

Aside from his stock business, he was interested in mining as superintendent of the Klau mine, and during his incumbency in that position one hundred fifty men were employed, a Scott furnace of sixty-ton capacity was used and great quantities of quicksilver were retorted and sold. When the price of the mineral went down so that it did not pay longer to mine, the property was closed up and Mr. Bagby continued the cattle business and met with deserved success.

He married Elizabeth Fowler, daughter of H. C. Fowler of Cayucos and a sister of Mrs. C. L. Gruwell, and five children were born to them. Wesley A. graduated from Chestnutwood Business College at Santa Cruz and from Heald's Business College in San Francisco, became an expert penman and bookkeeper, and later bought the Armstrong Business College at San Luis Obispo and conducted it for a time; but he applied himself so closely to the work that his health broke and he passed away. Another son is William C.; Maud is now Mrs. Ford Pearson of Monterey; and two daughters are Mildred and Alice. The father died in 1914.

William C. completed his grammar school studies and then entered Chestnutwood College at Santa Cruz, from which he was graduated, and in due time secured a clerkship with George Bell in Paso Robles. He was not satisfied with an indoor life and decided that he would make some kind of a change when opportunity offered. He found employment at the Klau mine—first called the Karl mine—soon acting as bookkeeper, and then as foreman. When his father moved to Paso Robles, he took charge of the ranch and cattle



business, and in 1909 bought the stock and leased the land and has been uniformly successful ever since. For a brand he uses the XL established by his father, and as an ear mark, a swallow fork and under bit, which is known by all stockmen in the county.

In connection with his stock business Mr. Bagby purchased, with Ed Asebez, the Cambria market, and later A. B. Hitchcock became a member of the firm, when the company became owners of the Central Market in Paso Robles. Mr. Bagby turned his stock into the business, and the co-partnership is known as the Butte Cattle Co. They have leased the Taylor ranch near Klau and now run cattle on it. They have their own slaughter house, and manufacture their own sausage and cure their own hams and bacon. They have installed modern appliances in their plant and shops, having refrigerator counters in the Central Market, a cold storage plant and their own ice-making machinery, thereby creating the finest and most up-to-date plant in the county. Besides the four hundred forty acres that Mr. Bagby owns, the company lease 3,400 acres, on which five hundred head of cattle are kept. They raise cattle, sheep and hogs, and are large shippers to the markets in San Francisco, Los Angeles and Santa Cruz.

On September 28, 1910, Mr. Bagby and Miss Alpha Pemberton were united in marriage in San Luis Obispo. She is a daughter of Charles and Maggie (Compher) Pemberton, the former born in Arizona and the latter near Cambria, Cal. Grandfather Compher was a pioneer of Cambria, where he was well known as a stock raiser, and also in the Adelaida district. Mr. Pemberton was a rancher in Adelaida and is now a resident of Paso Robles. Mr. and Mrs. Bagby have one child, a son named William Earl Bagby. In 1915 the family moved to a comfortable home in Paso Robles, where Mrs. Bagby is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1915, opportunity again knocked at Mr. Bagby's door and he purchased the Klau mine and interested Messrs. Luchessa and Bianchini in the enterprise. They have opened the mine and are retorting quicksilver, have enlarged the workings and opened up new veins and ledges; and with the impetus of the new owners and the prevailing price of the mineral, the mine bids fair to become a very important enterprise.

Mr. Bagby is a Republican in politics, although not a politician. He superintends the ranch and does most of the cattle buying for the company. With all his numerous interests taking up so much of his attention, he always finds time to participate in all progressive movements for upbuilding his county and state, is known over a wide area, and has friends everywhere.

**GEORGE A. FRUITS.**—One of the interesting and instructive sights in the vicinity of Templeton is the John Gibson Ranch, the high standard of which, and its excellent products, are to be attributed largely to the experience of A. F. Gibson and George A. Fruits, his partner, the lessees and managers. Mr. Fruits is a native of the city of San Luis Obispo, where he was born on the last day of August in the year 1882. His father, Robert F., was also a native son, while his grandfather Fruits was a pioneer in California, and assisted in the great work of laying the foundations of the State. Having located here while he was still a young man, Robert Fruits married Miss Ella Swain, a native Californian, born in Petaluma, who was the daughter of Capt. Robert C. Swain, a pioneer in San Francisco in 1849 after he had crossed the plains with an ox-team and prairie schooner. He was also for



years a sea-faring man, becoming captain of a whaler, and later ran one of the first steam-boats on the Sacramento river.

In 1868, he settled in San Luis Obispo County, near Cayucos, and in the old days when milk was poured into flat pans and the skimming was done by hand, he conducted a dairy ranch with as many as one hundred cows. At the age of ninety-six he died at Santa Maria. In his seventy-fifth year he was still as active as he was in his prime. It is interesting to note that George Fruits' great-grandfather and great-grandmother lived to be one hundred fourteen and one hundred sixteen years old, respectively. His mother now resides in Templeton. The three other children in the family are: Walter, a driller in the Santa Maria oil fields; Robert, who resides in Templeton; and Henry, who is a tool-dresser in the Santa Maria oil fields.

Educated in the public schools of the county, G. A. Fruits was in the employ of George Freeman's Ranch, near Morro, when fifteen, and for five years he worked in a dairy, milking twenty-six cows and making butter. He next devoted two years of his life to the interests of his mother's ranch, and for several years he was in the employ of John Gibson. Then he came to Templeton; at first to run a dray and an express; but in October, 1916, he sold the outfit and engaged in ranching. With Alexander Gibson he formed a partnership to lease the John Gibson ranch of 1,800 acres, and these the partners have successfully managed—seven hundred acres being plowed land, while about four hundred are sown to grain each year.

Mr. Fruits takes pride in his household, which is ably presided over by his wife, formerly Miss Zella Bierer, who was born at Templeton, of a good old pioneer family. He is a Woodman of the World, and a Republican.

**JOSEPH FLEIG.**—That it pays a mechanic to equip himself for expert work with only the best that is obtainable in instruction and actual experience, albeit the latter can be won, in the main, only by costly experiment, is demonstrated in the successful career of Joseph Fleig, the engineer at the Creston pumping station of the Producers Transportation Co. Born at Villingen, the ancient manufacturing town of Baden and the center of much of the famous Black Forest clock-making industry, February 18, 1868, Joseph was the son of a manufacturing jeweler of the same name, who died in 1913. His mother, who was born in the same old town, and died there years ago, was Miss Anne Hirt before her marriage. Three children survive of the eight born to this industrious couple, but Joseph is the only child in the United States.

Brought up at Villingen, where he attended the grammar school and the gymnasium or high school, young Fleig was apprenticed, at the age of seventeen, to a blacksmith in Einingen, and at the end of two and a half years, when he was recognized as a journeyman, he traveled through various parts of Germany and Switzerland to add to his practical experience. In 1888, he came to the United States, and almost immediately to Santa Barbara; and having an uncle, Mr. Hirt, the owner of a ranch near by, he spent three years with him in farming. He then set up as a blacksmith for a couple of years at Carpinteria, but selling out located at Creston, where he worked for Mr. Mason, another rancher. He next started a blacksmith shop in Creston, taking in a partner and conducting the business under the firm name of Ward & Fleig; and having thus continued for eight years, they dissolved partnership and Mr. Fleig started a new shop for himself. He built both a

work house and a residence, but eventually sold these buildings and his business also.

When the Producers Transportation Co. started their great work of constructing the huge pipe line, now famous, Joseph Fleig went to work for them as a blacksmith, and in that capacity helped until all their stations were completed, finally returning to Creston, where he washed and fired their boilers. The company, always alert to secure the most expert and dependable assistance, made him engineer, and in that responsible position, to which he gives all his time, he has been engaged for the last two years. He has charge of three giant pumps that handle no less than 2,250 barrels of oil an hour.

With all the historic and picturesque background of old San Luis Obispo, Joseph Fleig was married to Miss Annie Kehlenbeck, April 30, 1896. The bride was a native of Bremen, Germany, and the daughter of Hermann and Anne Kehlenbeck, farmers of that region. There the mother died; but the father brought the family of four children to Iowa, where he was laid to rest. Miss Kehlenbeck was reared and educated in Iowa, and came to California first in 1892, when she visited her brother, John, who had settled at San Luis Obispo on the Templeton road, near Creston. Five children have resulted from this marriage: Elsa, Robert, Freida, Rosina and Bertha.

Although busily engaged in his responsible daily work, Mr. Fleig, as a typical native of a country famous for its schools, has found time to advance the cause of education in the country of his adoption, and for seven years past has given his services as school trustee for Creston.

**FRANK A. WESSMAN.**—So many instances have been recorded of pioneers who have left California, and have then returned to remain here, that the significance of the circumstance has ceased, perhaps, to be noticed; and yet every story such as that of Frank A. Wessman, who came to California in 1894, hied himself away after five or six years and could not resist eventually making for the Coast again and settling here, is worth permanently narrating. Various motives have affected the masses, but with Frank it was the climate; and when you are in bleak Anywhere and get the climate of California on the brain, there is only one thing for you to do: take the first express train for California, and never alight until your foot touches the golden sands.

Frank Wessman is a native of Nerke, Sweden, where he was born on the 27th of May, 1866. His father was Herman Wessman, a worthy iron worker and a native of Vermland, who was employed in the iron works at Svartaa until his death. His mother, who is also dead, was in maidenhood Miss Beata Anderson, a native of the same place, and became the mother of four boys and two girls, of whom one son and two daughters are still living. Frank was brought up in the village of Svartaa, where he attended the public school, and on completion of the course at fifteen he also began work in the iron works under his father, running the tilt hammer.

In 1890, he sailed to Melbourne, Australia, via the Suez Canal. He was employed in a saw-mill and later worked at gardening; but having a brother, John, already in California, he landed in San Francisco in January, 1894, from the steamer "Mariposa," and without much delay joined his brother in San Luis Obispo County. The two young men bought fifty acres of land in Bethel district, which they planted to grain; but his brother dying three

years afterward, Frank leased the ranch and went back East to the city of Pittsburgh, where he operated a tilt-hammer in Pike Bros.' steel mill. The recollection of sunny California, however, haunted him in the smoky, though prosperous city, and in 1905 he abandoned the Pennsylvania furnaces and hurried to open, free California, where he once more took up farming on his ranch. Here he engaged in the raising of grain and planted a small orchard. He is an enterprising, successful ranchman, and has cleared upwards of fifty acres and more than quadrupled his money in four years.

Mr. Wessman is a stand-pat Republican, yet with breadth of political view enough to work hard for the best man. He has been a trustee for three years of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Templeton, and he enjoys the esteem and good-will of his neighbors.

**JOHN JOSEPH PALMER.**—One of the steadiest and most popular men in San Miguel is John Joseph Palmer, who was born at Oakland, on December 4, 1871, the son of Michael, a pioneer who came to California about 1855. In the beginning his father was employed at the lumber yards in Oakland, and then as foreman for the Southern Pacific Railroad. He lived thirty years or more in Niles, where he died in April, 1906, at the age of seventy-seven years. The mother, Miss Margaret Goley before her marriage, died in 1884, leaving two sons, having had five children.

John Joseph was reared in Niles, educated at the public schools, and while yet a lad was set to work in a nursery. He had an uncle, Andrew Goley, who was foreman for the Southern Pacific at Santa Margarita, and a cousin, James Goley, at Templeton. To the former place he came in 1893, and went to work in a store. In 1895 he entered the service of the Southern Pacific at Templeton, remaining until 1897, when he was transferred to Santa Margarita. Some time after this his uncle was badly injured in the wrecking of a hand-car, so John took his place, for five months, as foreman, at the end of which time he was transferred to San Miguel; and since 1899 he has been foreman in charge of eight and a half miles of track stretching from San Miguel to the Paso Robles city limits.

In San Miguel he married Miss Margaret Curtin, a native of Vineyard cañon, and a daughter of John Curtin, who was both a pioneer of California and a pioneer resident of the vicinity of San Miguel, having resided there over forty-five years. In early days he was engaged in sheep raising, and homesteaded his present place in Vineyard cañon, Monterey county, about ten miles from San Miguel, where he still makes his home, being now nearly eighty years of age. He was married in San Francisco to Ellen Corbett, of whose companionship he was bereaved about six years ago. The youngest child in a family of seven, only three of whom are living, Mrs. Palmer received her education in the public schools of Vineyard cañon and San Miguel.

Mr. and Mrs. Palmer own a pretty residence, in the yard of which is a fine live oak. He is a Democrat in national politics, and a past president of San Marcos parlor of the Native Sons of the Golden West; he is also past grand of Nacimiento Lodge No. 340 of the Odd Fellows and an equally popular member of the Knights of Pythias and the Fraternal Brotherhood, being past president of the latter. Mrs. Palmer is a member and past president of San Miguel Parlor, Native Daughters of the Golden West. She is also a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood, of which she is ex-secretary.

**EDWARD ASEBEZ.**—A very promising young administrator in local business circles, and one who has risen by his own efforts, thus acquiring a most valuable self-control, confidence and the ability both to direct and to command, is Edward Asebez, who was born at Guadalupe, September 26, 1872, the son of Anastacio Asebez, a native of Mexico. His grandparents came from Spain, and his father learned the butcher trade in Mexico. Later, when the gold excitement drew so many to the Pacific slope, he came to California and went to the mines; but he found more profit in selling meat than in digging for the yellow dust, and after prospering as a butcher to the miners, he removed to the vicinity of Watsonville, where he also had a butcher shop. In the sixties he came to San Luis Obispo County and dealt in cattle; at the same time he took up a claim of one hundred sixty acres at the Keystone mine, eight miles northwest of Cambria. There he died, an old and honored settler who had reached his eightieth year. Edward's mother, Placida Garcia, a native of California, died at Watsonville, the mother of seven children, of whom three are now living. Besides the subject of our sketch, there is a daughter, Mrs. Carmel Soto, who lives near Cambria, and another daughter, Mrs. Clara Jackson, of San Diego.

The eldest of these children, Edward Asebez, was brought up from the age of eight years in San Simeon, where he attended the public school, and even as a lad was introduced to the details of the butcher business as conducted by his father, with whom he continued until the latter sold out. Then Edward took a clerkship in a store at San Simeon, where for four years he was also assistant postmaster.

In 1900, he was appointed postmaster of San Simeon, and at the same time he started a grocery there, installing the postoffice in a corner of the store. At the end of three years he resigned his federal office in favor of his sister, Mrs. Anna Russell, who was thereupon appointed as his successor, and to her he also sold the store.

During this period of his postmastership he had become interested with an uncle, Rafael A. Mora, in a butcher business at Cambria, and had formed with him the firm of Mora & Asebez; and now that he was free to actively engage in the business, he moved to Cambria. Later, with two other partners, Mora & Asebez bought the Jack ranch of nine hundred five acres, at the head of Santa Rosa creek, where they went in for stock-raising. They also leased other ranches, Mr. Asebez attending mostly to the business end of the enterprises, acting as bookkeeper. In 1910, he and Mr. Ford sold their interests to Messrs. Mora and Hitchcock.

The same year, at Cambria, Edward Asebez was married to Miss Louisa Soto, a native of this county, who was born at Adelaida, the daughter of General Soto, born in Monterey, who was a farmer and stockman, and settled in Adelaida, but returned to Cambria, where he died. Her mother had been Dolores Grahvalva, a native of San Francisco, and the daughter of John Grahvalva, who came from Mexico as a gold seeker, and who, finding what he sought, bought ten acres of land near the Dolores Mission, where he engaged in business. He later moved to Jolon, Monterey county, where he died, and where Dolores was married. His wife was Theresa Morano, a native of Mexico, who died in Belmont. General Soto died in Cambria in 1906. His widow still owns the farm at Adelaida, but makes her home in Paso Robles with her daughter, Mrs. Asebez. Six of their eight children are yet living.

Mrs. Asebez, who was reared and educated at Adelaida, being the youngest. One child has blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Asebez—a boy named Edward Frank.

After his marriage, Mr. Asebez bought, with his brother-in-law, Cipriano Soto, the ranch on Santa Rosa creek, which they still own and conduct under the personal charge of Mr. Soto. When he sold his interests in the butcher business, he retained his interest in the building in Cambria where they had conducted their business, and in 1913 he bought back the old butcher business, and once more undertook its management himself. Later, William C. Bagby became his partner, and together they conducted the firm of Asebez & Bagby.

Two years afterwards, that is, in 1915, Alvin Hitchcock was made a partner, and from H. Nelson they bought the Central Meat Market on Park street, in Paso Robles. They thereupon formed a co-partnership styled the Butte Cattle Co., and went in for cattle-raising and butchering. They have continued the meat market in Cambria, where they also have a first-class slaughter house. As an expert bookkeeper with a particularly valuable knowledge of the ins and outs of the cattle and butcher business, Mr. Asebez has managed the Central Meat Market on Park street, now owned by the Butte Cattle Co.

As an interesting feature of their up-to-date outfit and plant, the firm has a large modern slaughter-house near town, and leases an extensive stock ranch near Klau, where they raise cattle whose brand, XL, means decidedly something to the buyer looking for the best of cattle. Five hundred head and more of Herefords and Shorthorns are kept on this interesting ranch. Mr. Asebez and his partners are interested in the Klau Mining Co.

Mr. Asebez is an Independent Republican when it comes to matters of national political concern, and is a much esteemed citizen whose opinions and influence are sought. He is also popular as a member of the Cambria Parlor 152, Native Sons of the Golden West.

**CHARLES REYNOLDS.**—A chip off the old block and one that fits in very handily to many a corner and difficult situation, is Charles Reynolds, the hustling farmer who, assisted by his good wife, has made a success in agriculture and stock-raising. On the ranch of his father, Dwight Reynolds, the well-known farmer on the Huer-Huero, three miles east of Paso Robles, Charles Reynolds was born on June 25, 1880, the third oldest child; and while he was being initiated in the work of the farm, he attended the public school of Dry creek. As a mere lad, he drove the big teams around the ranch and vied with more seasoned farm-hands in performing the day's labor; so that it was rather natural, after all, that he should follow where his father led, and assist in the management of the property known for miles around.

On the threshold of manhood, however, he began to farm for himself, at first renting the Shackelford place and then, for three years, taking into partnership his brother, Ross, in the tilling of the 1,200 acres. When this partnership was dissolved, he ran the Sharon place for four years alone, giving that up to rent for three years some six hundred forty of the Huntington acres. So well did he succeed in that venture that he branched out, leasing first the Kuhnle place, then the Bayliss ranch, and finally one of the West Coast farms, operating in all 1,700 acres, and during the five years using three big teams and a giant combined harvester. Naturally a good mechanic,

he is able to do his own blacksmithing work; so Mr. Reynolds always maintains a blacksmith's shop on his place, and is equipped for every kind of smithy work that has to be done. Sometimes the horses are shod, and again the implements repaired or sharpened; and so well is he provided for emergencies, that his forge has served his neighbors when not busy for himself. From time to time he has assisted in running a steam thresher, and thereby developed considerable ability as a machinist.

Mr. Reynolds is now operating a part of the Huntington place, devoting nine hundred acres to grain and stock-raising, for which he uses a twelve-horse team and reaps with a combined harvester run by thirty-three horses and mules, and gathers the crops of neighboring ranches as well as his own. Wheat, barley, cattle and horses are among the products of his well-kept farm. In the Union district some years ago, Charles Reynolds was married to a popular young lady, Miss Juanita May Reese, a native of Solano county, and a daughter of Jenkin Reese, whose sketch, full of interest, will be found in another part of our history. They have been blessed with two children—Elmore Charles and Dorothy. Mr. Reynolds is looked upon as an exemplary citizen and has served as a school trustee of Linne district. He is a Socialist.

**JOSEPH SCHLEGEL, JR.**—The pages of this work would not be complete without a history of Joseph Schlegel, Jr., a native son of the county and a farmer and stockman at Creston who, by his close application, energy and honorable methods, has become a respected and successful rancher. Born near Edna, in San Luis Obispo County, September 4, 1874, he is the son of Joseph Schlegel, Sr., who was a citizen of the German Fatherland, but who came to the United States when a young man, drifting soon to the Pacific Coast and to California, which he reached about 1873.

The father followed farming for a time near Edna, and later at Nipomo, and soon after, in 1884, bought land in the Genesee district, where he improved and owned one hundred eighty-seven acres, on which he built a house and various farm buildings, together with a substantial fence. When he finally sold the ranch, he selected San Luis Obispo as his home, and here he still resides. Joseph's mother bore the Christian name of Rose.

The second eldest of seven children, Joseph was brought up in San Luis Obispo County on his father's farm, and attended the public schools in Genesee and the Creston districts; learning much about farming while yet a lad, and especially how to gratify a boy's ambition to handle a big team in the grain fields. In 1907, after he had farmed with his father, he leased the latter's place and other lands in the neighborhood of their home and operated them for three years. Then for two years he was a fireman for the Producers Transportation Co., first at Shandon and then at Creston; after which he also ventured for a year to manage a store. At present he is farming on the Jones place, where he is raising barley. He is also raising cattle and horses.

In Creston, in 1900, Joseph Schlegel, Jr., was married to Miss Violet Brumley, a native of this county, who has since died, leaving two children, Chester and Rush. He was married the second time in San Luis Obispo, being then united with Miss Katherine Stemper, who was born in Tulare county, by whom he has had two children, Marvin and Dorris. A Republican in national politics, he has served for years as trustee of the Creston school district.

**MR. AND MRS. CHARLES T. CLAUS.**—Many are the remarkable stories told of the many Californians who have derived much benefit from the curative effects of the unrivalled climate, but among the most wonderful experiences must be placed that of Mrs. Charles T. Claus, one of the estimable proprietors of the Eight Mile House, who was miraculously cured of inflammatory rheumatism through the drinking of mineral waters that flowed from the Rinconado mine. The Eight Mile House, with its two hundred twenty acre ranch of rich soil, abounding with springs so desirable for a stock farm, and lying three and a half miles above Santa Margarita, derives its odd name from the fact that it was once a celebrated stopping-place on the overland route, with a large, circular hall given over to dances and shows, now removed and rebuilt at Santa Margarita.

Charles Claus was born in Bremen, Germany, on June 17, 1865, and was educated in the public schools of his native country until he was fourteen years of age, when he came to America. At Philadelphia he learned the bricklayer's trade, and in 1884 journeyed west. He first visited Los Angeles, then went on to San Diego, and continued south until he reached the City of Mexico, where he spent practically two years.

On returning to San Diego, he began to travel through California, plying his trade, in summer and winter, and also prospecting on the deserts of California and Arizona. He first came to San Luis Obispo in 1888; but swayed by the excitement incidental to the gold discoveries in Alaska, he hurried away to the north. He had built quicksilver furnaces in different places—some at Knoxville, Etna, etc., and then at the New Idria mine in San Benito county—and had also repaired furnaces at the Klau mine; and confident of winning out, he went to Alaska, with thousands of others. Neither success nor failure rewarded his efforts, and in a couple of seasons he was back in the States.

On his return from Alaska, Charles Claus was married at San Luis Obispo, September 18, 1903, to Mrs. Cecilia (Carmine) Pedraita, a native of Giubiasco, Ticino, Switzerland, and the daughter of John and Josephine (Bomio) Carmine, farmer folk in the pastoral region of her birthplace. Miss Carmine was brought up in Ticino, and there was first married, to Rufino Pedraita, also a native of the same place. He was a wheelwright and carpenter by trade, and came to California in 1882, settling at Cayucos, after which, the next year, he sent for his wife. Together Mr. and Mrs. Pedraita engaged in the hotel business at Cayucos; and their old place, the Cosmopolitan Hotel, having been burned out, they ran the Exchange Hotel as its successor, continuing for sixteen years in that field, and in the meantime erecting the corner bank building in Cayucos.

Then Mr. and Mrs. Pedraita removed to San Luis Obispo, and for six months conducted the Golden State Hotel there; but on account of Mrs. Pedraita's severe suffering from inflammatory rheumatism, they left the Mission city and went to Rinconado, where they bought from Maho Bros. the quicksilver mine at which the marvelous cure of the unfortunate lady was effected. The Rinconado was an old Spanish mine known as *la Mina de los Amigos*, or "The Mine of the Friends, or Lovers," which had not been worked for forty or fifty years, lying ten miles from Santa Margarita, a veritable volcano, from the top of which one can see through Santa Maria valley into Santa Barbara county; and a month after Mrs. Pedraita had first partaken of

the mineral water flowing from a spring in the mine, she was so completely cured that she threw away her crutches and has never suffered from the affliction since. For three years the thankful and confident couple managed the mine, and then they bought the old Eight Mile House ranch and moved here, engaging in farming and dairying with a dairy herd of a dozen or more cows, and also raising fruit and alfalfa, the place being well watered by creeks and springs from which good water is piped to the residence, dairy house and barns.

A new sorrow, however, soon overshadowed her life: on June 7, 1900, Mr. Pedraita died, closing such a life that he is mourned alike by the community and his devoted wife and eight children. These offspring are: Theresa, now Mrs. Bell, of San Jose; Angelina, who married Mark Vanoni, of Geyserville; Charles, of San Jose; Ida, Mrs. Christensen, who resides at Questa; Romilda, the wife of William McCusick, the rancher, living near Santa Margarita; Clara, who has become Mrs. Myer and also lives at Geyserville; Beatrice, who is Mrs. Tate, of Santa Margarita; and Adeline, who is at home.

After Mr. Pedraita's death, Mrs. Pedraita leased the mines for several years; and although she still owns the property and it is equipped with two retorts of ten pipes each, she no longer has it operated. The Rinconado ranch has about two hundred seventy-one acres, devoted to stock-raising, besides four mining claims. Mr. and Mrs. Claus also own a ranch of one hundred sixty acres about two and a half miles from Santa Margarita, which is used for a range, well stocked with the finest of cattle.

Mrs. Claus is fortunate in having two brothers and a sister in California—Peter Carmine, a rancher in Adelaida district; John Carmine, a dairy rancher at Josephine; and Mrs. Caroline Bassi, of Green valley. She is a member of the Fraternal Brotherhood of San Luis Obispo, and has served as school trustee of Rinconado. Mr. Claus, on the other hand, has twice been a school trustee of the Alma district. Both Mr. and Mrs. Claus are representative Democrats.

**PATRICK O'DONOVAN.** When it comes to know anything about Creston, its early days and its first school house, then Patrick O'Donovan will surely tell you, for he is now the oldest settler there, having come when there were only two other settlers in this entire neighborhood. In County Kilkenny, in the beautiful Emerald Isle, he was born, far back in 1840, the son of William O'Donovan, a farmer. Brought up on the home farm, he attended the national schools. In 1865, he came to the United States, and worked for a while in the marble quarries at Tuckahoe, N. Y.

Two years later, young O'Donovan came to California and took up his residence, for six months, in Solano county, where he worked in a nursery. He then hired himself out to farm at San Jose, and while there married Miss Bridget Taylor, a native of County Wexford, Ireland, after which he came to San Benito county, where he farmed for four years.

In 1874, he moved still farther, taking up his present place in San Luis Obispo County. The land was then claimed by the railroad company, but he located and built upon it, and when it reverted to the government, he homesteaded and finally proved up on what he wanted. He dug a well, built his comfortable house—hauling the lumber necessary from Pismo—and also erected a barn. Then he began in dead earnest to raise stock, grain and hay,



and, as might be expected, he had proportionately good luck. His ranch is located on the north fork of the Huerfano and is well watered with springs, and he raises Durham cattle and hogs successfully. He bought other land adjoining, and now owns over eighteen hundred acres, all improved and fenced, situated five miles southeast of Creston. For some three or four years he rented out his own ranch, and followed the raising of grain on Carissa Plains.

As a result of the marriage referred to, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick O'Donovan have five children—four boys and one girl. William, Edward and Ambrose are successfully operating together a large ranch, a part of the Ambrose tract, while John is a farmer on his own ranch at Creston. The daughter, Mary, has become Mrs. John J. Ryan, of Creston. Mr. O'Donovan was one of the original stockholders in the Farmers Alliance Business Association, was a director in the company and, with the late Andrew Nelson, paid in the first money to secure the lot for the present warehouses, which meant much to the grain growers, as it reduced the storage charges.

A true-blue Republican who has been a member of the county central committee, Mr. O'Donovan has served upon the grand jury, and was deputy assessor under Charles King. He has also been a school trustee of the Huerfano district nearly all the time since the district was formed, and part of this time the clerk of the board. This reminds one that when he built the first school house it was at his own expense. It was constructed of logs to the eaves, and the balance of shakes and boards. It was but 14x24 feet in size, and the benches and desks were made at the same time. The school-house stood only about half a mile from his place, and Patrick O'Donovan was among the first to build a road through the section. He is well read and keeps abreast of the times, and having a retentive memory with his genial and witty disposition, is an interesting talker and, with his estimable wife, is very kind hearted and hospitable.

**JACOB SILAS TWITCHELL.**—One is so accustomed to read, hear and speak of the hardships to which the pioneers who settled in California were exposed, and all the privations they suffered before they came out of the wilderness and the snows into the fairest land God ever gave to man, that there is great danger of dealing in generalities and so failing to be suitably impressed by what these same pioneers really underwent in order to lay the foundations of this commonwealth. It is only when we ponder over the almost unbelievable details of a story such as that in which the ancestors of Jacob Silas Twitchell figure and loom large that we marvel first at what men had to suffer in order to bring about the more improved conditions of social life, and, secondly, that those who enjoy such domestic blessings do not, in many cases at least, appreciate what they are heir to. Jacob's grandfather, Josiah, who died at San Juan, came from Scotland, first settling in Ohio, then passing west to Illinois, and finally, in 1847, starting on a two years' trip across the continent to California. He was accompanied by his son, Sanford Lorenzo Twitchell, Jacob's father, who was born in Ohio and had married, in Kentucky, Miss Irene Hopper, a native of that state, and a daughter of William Hopper, who came across the plains at the same time, and who died at San Juan, while Irene's mother died at Templeton.

With wagons made so that they could be easily converted into boats and used for the crossing of streams, the elder Twitchell and his son set out a couple of years before the great gold excitement, and passed their first

winter at the Mississippi river and the next at Salt Lake City. There were five hundred wagons in the ox-team train, but notwithstanding the size of the cavalcade, the emigrants were frequently attacked by Indians, and in two of the engagements seven of the pioneers were killed. To add to their plight, some of the oxen were captured by the Indians, after which the hard-pressed pioneers had to use cows to draw some of their wagons. On July 1, 1849, the Twitchells arrived in the tent town of Sacramento, and there, five days later, Celesta Ann Twitchell was born as the first white child. For a while Jacob's father worked in the mines, and so successfully that he accumulated no less than \$60,000; but one day when he had left his cabin at Angels Camp—the same historic dug-outs forever associated with Mark Twain's story of the Jumping Frog of Calaveras County—robbers entered his shack and robbed him of all that his hard toil had provided.

After that, Sanford Twitchell removed to San Juan, Monterey county, and there, on May 15, 1862, Jacob S. Twitchell was born. Sanford entered upon and improved government land, converting the wilderness into a farm, and in 1880 he located in San Luis Obispo County, in the Asuncion district, where he bought a farm seven miles west of Templeton. Again he entered and improved land, taking title to three hundred twenty acres, and there, on April 6, 1900, he died. Sanford Twitchell had nine children: Celesta Ann, now Mrs. Peacock, who lives at Stockton; Martha, who became Mrs. Adkins and who lives at Oceano; Phyllis, deceased; Marion, who resides at the old homestead; William, who lives in San Luis Obispo County; John, who lives in Summerland; Charles, who died at the old home in 1898; Hannah, now Mrs. Wells, who lives on Carissa Plains; and Jacob Silas, the subject of our sketch.

While attending the Monterey public schools, Jacob grew up on a ranch, and even as a lad learned to drive big teams and to ride after cattle. Employed by Flint & Bixby, in 1877, he came to San Luis Obispo County on a trip, which consumed six weeks before he could return, and in 1880 his father's family came to this county. Jacob remained home until he was twenty-six years of age; then, on December 17, 1889, he married, at San Luis Obispo, Miss Sophia Woon, a native of Nevada, and the daughter of Albert Woon, a Canadian, whose father had come from England. Albert Woon had been a carpenter, and later had set himself up as a wheat merchant; and while crossing the continent he had stopped for a while in Nevada. Arriving at Santa Barbara, Mrs. Woon died, and at San Luis Obispo the father also passed away. The Woons had three children—the others beside Mrs. Twitchell being Carrie, who died at the age of sixteen, and Ernest, who lives in Carpinteria.

After marrying, Jacob Twitchell took a trip to Humboldt county, then returned to San Benito county and to Panoche valley, where he homesteaded and farmed for fourteen years. In 1903, he removed to Oceano and engaged in the livery business. Three years later, he came to the place where he is at present. He bought three hundred thirty-seven acres three miles from Creston, and there has attained the success in farming, dairying, stock-raising and the growing of grain which has made him one of the most experienced ranchers of the locality. He is also farming three hundred twenty acres on Carissa Plains. Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Twitchell have five children: Maud, better known as Mrs. Wilson, of Carpinteria; Carrie, who has become Mrs.

Kendricks, of Santa Margarita; Mattie, Mrs. Suttin, of Santa Barbara; and Octavia and Gertha, who are at home. By all these he does his full duty as a parent, and what is more, he takes a special pleasure in working for the children of other folks, having served as school trustee of his district. He is a Republican in politics.

**EDWARD BOUCHER BALLARD.**—In the very interesting, half-romantic career of E. B. Ballard may be seen how the changes and chances of fortune have conditioned the selection of much of the best citizenship of the Golden State. Born at Brighton, England, September 23, 1860, Mr. Ballard is the great-great-nephew of Rear-Admiral Volant Vashon, of the English Navy, who was knighted Commander of the Bath, and the grandson of Volant Ballard, born about 1774, who accompanied the expedition of Vancouver to the northwest coast of America and who, in 1825, because of a share in the capture of the *Guadalupe*, was also made Rear-Admiral, dying in 1833. He is the son of James Ballard, a native of England, who was born at Hereford in 1818, and who became a captain in the English Navy, serving there until he was married, and retiring in 1868, although he lived to be ninety-eight years old.

E. B. Ballard's mother, too, had equally interesting family and historical associations. She was Miss Charlotte Hale before her marriage, a native of Hambleton, Hampshire, England, and the daughter of Edward Hale, a country gentleman, whose wife was Catherine Downman, the daughter of Admiral Hugh Downman, who was with Nelson at Trafalgar.

Seven children were born to Captain and Mrs. James Ballard, and of these, E. B. Ballard was the eldest, a brother, Captain Caspar Ballard, being the youngest captain in the English navy, and now commanding the super-dreadnought, *H. M. S. Hibernia*. Educated at the public school at Clifton, and at the Military school near Eton, E. B. Ballard enlisted in the English army and was commissioned first lieutenant of the Third Battalion, Prince of Wales' Own. Unfortunately, however, from a child of two years he had been a sufferer from asthma. Obtaining no relief, he was finally advised by physicians to seek the climate of the western United States. He therefore resigned his commission, and came to Iowa. Finding himself in no respect improved, and discouraged almost to despair, he was lucky to get a line from a friend, written, perhaps, half as much in jest as in earnest. Horace Annesley Vachell, the English writer, now of established fame, having seen a pumpkin at Arroyo Grande weighing one hundred three pounds, wrote to Ballard to come on to the Coast, where cabbages grew to a hundredweight; and in 1882 he hastened here to find, to his continued discouragement, that the asthma still bothered him.

It was then that Mr. Phillips, who had laid out Huer-Huero rancho and subdivided the lands adjoining, induced Mr. Ballard to accompany a party on a camping trip to that locality, and Mr. Ballard accepted and reached the site of what is now Vachell ranch. He had never been able for years to sleep throughout an entire night without getting up, generally at two or three o'clock, to more freely breathe; and anticipating the same experience again, he was surprised, on arising, to find that it was daylight, and that there was no one around but the Chinese cook, who told him he was "heap lazy man." It was after eight o'clock, and the rest of the party had gone about whatever they wished to do. After sleeping a couple of nights more at the camp, Mr.

Ballard told his host that he did not know whether he could make a living there or not, but he could certainly sleep soundly, and if Mr. Phillips would sell him some land, he would attempt to settle near him. On going back to Arroyo Grande after thirty days at Creston, he again had the asthma, and that was enough to convince him as to the wisdom of his move.

On first reaching California, in 1880, with his friend, Mr. Vachell, they purchased the Tally-Ho ranch at Arroyo Grande, which they farmed until 1886, when it was sold. It was in 1884 that Mr. Ballard, with his friends, the Vachells, came to Creston, being among the first to settle on the new subdivision. They bought three thousand acres, and later divided it and dissolved partnership. Mr. Ballard kept six hundred forty acres, his present home site on Huer-Huero west. In 1885, he built on the place, and has since made it his home, being engaged in general farming and stock-raising with much success, and once more in possession of good health, enjoying life thoroughly.

At San Luis Obispo, Mr. Ballard was married to Miss Georgiana P. Hays, a native daughter of San Francisco, whose father was Dr. W. W. Hays, a pioneer, who came to California by way of Panama, and was the first practicing physician in San Luis Obispo county, continuing to practice there until 1901. Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Ballard: Volant Vashon, a graduate of the Boston School of Technology, who is now with the Interstate Commerce Commission, valuing railroads; Helen Mabry, a graduate of Miss Orton's Classical School at Pasadena, who has been engaged for two years in teaching and is now doing graduate work at the University of California; and William Hays, who is in attendance at the same university.

A member of the Episcopal Church, Mr. Ballard finds additional social recreation in the circles of the Independent Order of Foresters at San Luis Obispo.

**ELLARD W. CARSON.**—A native son of the Golden State, and one who, since his school days were over, has been associated with mining interests, Ellard W. Carson was born in San Jose, on September 2, 1877, a son of George Carson, a native of Detroit, Mich., and grandson of James Carson, a native of New York City, who was engaged in copper mining in the Lake Superior region, and a man who made and lost several fortunes in mining ventures. He met an accidental death while on a mining trip through being run over by a railroad train. George Carson received a good education in the schools of Michigan and New York, and was married in Detroit to Eleanor Carter, a native of Vermont. About 1874 he came to California, locating in San Jose, where, with Charles Hensley, he installed the first telephone system in that city. He later became connected with the New Almaden quicksilver mines in Santa Clara county, and retained his connection with the mining enterprise there for many years, becoming cashier and chief accountant, but finally retired with his wife to private life in San Francisco. There were eight children in their family, Ellard W. being the third in order of birth.

He attended the public schools in San Jose, graduating from the high school in 1896. His father having connections with the mining company at New Almaden, it was but natural that the son should take up that line of work. Beginning at the bottom, he spent seven years in the various departments, ranging from mucker to assistant superintendent, resigning then to

accept a position with the Oceanic Mining Co. in San Luis Obispo County, where he was superintendent until 1908, serving also as superintendent of the Cambria Quicksilver Mining Co. Resigning his position, he went to Los Angeles, bought a residence, and for the next six years followed mining engineering in California, Arizona and Nevada. In 1914 he returned to San Luis Obispo County to reopen the Cambria mines, and continued in his position of superintendent until they were closed. On the opening of the Oceanic, he became manager there, where he has remained to the present time.

Mr. Carson was united in marriage in San Francisco with Miss Catherine Miles, who was born in that city, where she graduated from a girls' high school and the San Francisco Normal, and was engaged in educational work for three years. Five children have blessed their union—Carter, Ellard, John, Catherine and Mary.

Mr. Carson was a member of the board of education while he lived at New Almaden, and part of the time was clerk; he was also trustee of Mammoth Rock and of San Simeon districts during his term of residence in this county. He is a member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers, and of the Sierra Madre Club of Los Angeles, where he also holds membership in the St. Cecelia Church; and he is a member of the San Luis Obispo Lodge of Elks. On national issues, he is a Republican, while in local affairs he supports the men and measures he considers best suited for the good of the people of the section most interested. He is wide awake to the opportunities offered in every calling in the state, and wherever he is known he has friends.

**HENRY CLAY KELSEA.**—Never, perhaps, in modern times has the soldier been so often in the minds and hearts of patriotic citizens, and yet it is not alone the warrior who is fighting the battles of the present, and therefore deciding the issues of the future. Such a veteran as Henry C. Kelsea comes in for a full share of honor and good wishes, thinking people everywhere recognizing the fact that he contributed his part in determining many of the stable conditions of today and securing many of the blessings we all now enjoy. The grandson of William Kelsea, a native of New Hampshire, of Scotch descent, who was a captain in the War of 1812, and once owned the town site of Lisbon, N. H., Henry's father was Benjamin Franklin Kelsea, a farmer, who grew up in New Hampshire where he was born, became a merchant and the postmaster under Lincoln and Johnson at Center Harbor, in that state, and there died. Henry's mother had been Miss Martha Merrill, who was born at Landaff, N. H., the granddaughter of Ebenezer Merrill, also a native of the Granite State, and a relative of the Ladd and the Noah Webster families.

Born at Lisbon, September 11, 1845, the only boy in a family of two children, Henry Kelsea attended the public schools of his district six months in the year, and worked on his father's farm the rest of the season. He also attended the Meredith high school; leaving which he clerked in his father's store. At sixteen, he started to learn the machinist's trade, entering a shop at Lake village, now Lakeport, N. H.; but when the bugles summoned the youth of the land to the support of the Federal Government, the young man left his bench and placed himself at the service of his country.

On August 20, 1861, he began his notable military career by enlisting in Co. K, later Co. I, of the 5th N. H. Vol. Inf. He fought particularly with the

Army of the Potomac, took part in thirty two engagements, including such notable battles as that of the Wilderness, Antietam, Cold Harbor, Deep Bottom and Gettysburg, and was present at Lee's surrender and saw General Lee and his staff paroled. During this arduous service, he was wounded in front of Petersburg, July 19, 1864, through the exploding of a shell, which broke his collar bone and rib, at a time when the bullets were so thick that some of them cut his leather belt and he lost his canteen; and when he was mustered out at Arlington Heights he was one of only one hundred sixty-one of the heroes who remained from a regiment of two thousand eight hundred. At Concord, N. H., on July 5, 1865, young Kelsea, who had thus proven his right to citizenship in a republic, was honorably discharged; and ever since he has enjoyed the esteem of his fellow-men. Particularly has he received all possible courtesy and honor in the circles of the veterans themselves, having been a member of Phil Sheridan Post 34, at Salem, Mass., and later of Shiloh Post, G. A. R., at Compton, and post commander for about twenty seasons, as well as assistant inspector general under Department Commander W. A. Barnes.

Resuming again the vocations of peace, Mr. Kelsea put in a summer with the Morse Telegraph Co., and then went to Danvers, Mass., where, for two years, he worked at the shoemaker's trade. Believing that he could better his condition by taking up some other line of work, he accordingly selected the trade of carpenter and, going to Salem, Mass., worked at that trade until he became an efficient workman. He then began taking contracts and followed the business in Salem, Marblehead and Boston.

The 30th of August, 1870, witnessed the marriage of Henry C. Kelsea and Miss Mary E. Wilkins at Danvers, where the bride was born, the daughter of Frederick A. and Sarah K. (Fuller) Wilkins, both members of old families of English descent. Her grandfather Wilkins had fought in the War of 1812 against the British, and her father was a shoe manufacturer at Danvers, and for twenty-eight years the postmaster of the town. When ill-health overtook him, he resigned from office; but ere the government could accept his resignation he had died. Miss Mary Wilkins was brought up in Danvers, attended the public school there, and finally graduated from the high school.

Mr. Kelsea continued in business as a well-known and successful contractor and builder in Boston until 1874, when he decided to join the great stream of pioneers still making for the Pacific Coast. Accordingly, the young couple sailed for and crossed the Isthmus of Panama, and having arrived in San Francisco proceeded by water to Santa Barbara. From that coast town, they came by stage to Los Angeles, and there Mr. Kelsea entered the employ of the Southern Pacific Railroad Co., taking charge of a construction gang at work building bridges and buildings. During this time he superintended the putting up of tanks and stations from Los Angeles to Mojave, and also undertook much the same work on the Yuma division. Finally, he resigned and left the service of the railroad company.

Joined by his family in 1876, Mr. Kelsea soon afterward took up his residence in the new town of Compton, where he contributed much toward founding the place and directing the lines of its expansion. First he bought twenty-eight acres of attractive ranch land, and later another forty acres, and in the meantime resumed his work as a contractor and builder in Compton and Los Angeles, erecting in the former place the East Side schools, two

grammar schools, the high school and the Enterprise school, as well as the farm house on the famous Dominguez ranch. At that time and for several years, the community was much molested by the depredations of horse and cattle thieves; and when the nuisance became unbearable, Henry Kelsea, in the true spirit of a veteran soldier, organized a vigilance committee, and within three or four years made the horse and cattle thief a terror of the past. The members of the committee were sworn to secrecy; they went forth into the brush with masks over their faces, and neither communicating their identity to another nor asking for the name of those alert and watchful at their side; they found the lair of the thieves and, at some personal risk and with no little display of bravery, they scattered and overawed the thieves who had been so long intimidating the colonist farmer. In 1907, Mr. Kelsea and family removed to Alhambra, where he built a residence and continued to operate as a contractor and builder.

In the spring of 1914 this sturdy pioneer took possession of his present place, the Hill Crest ranch, four miles to the south of Creston, where he purchased four hundred sixty acres for a stock ranch. He set out a fine orchard, built a spacious, comfortable residence, and made numerous improvements such as gratify the ambition and pride of any first-class rancher. In time, he constructed three sets of houses and out-buildings on the ranch, and in these adjoining dwellings live his children, who assist in the management of the ranch, a considerable part of which is given to grain as well as to stock. Mr. Kelsea has made several tours of investigation, including a journey to Central America and one to Alaska, as well as a trip to Arizona, New Mexico and Mexico.

Five children have blessed the union of Miss Wilkins and Henry Kelsea: Fred, who married Miss Sarah Lothrop, is a carpenter at Long Beach; Frank is a machinist at Los Angeles; Harry is a contractor in the same city; and Chester, and Gertrude, now Mrs. Liston, are on the ranch.

A Republican in matters of national politics, but decidedly non-partisan in local issues, Mr. Kelsea has contributed generously of his time as school trustee; while Mrs. Kelsea has been very active in promoting the best interests of the Parent-Teachers Association.

**GEORGE WEIR.**—One need not wonder at the reputation of George Weir, the mechanic and engineer, for fine work, which has contributed so much to his personal popularity, for he belongs to one of the most serviceable and honorable of all ancient handworker guilds, that of the sturdy blacksmith. Born at St. Louis on June 30, 1875, he is the son of Peter Weir, a native of Germany, who settled as a farmer some thirteen miles from the chief city of Missouri, and who, in the fall of 1883, brought his family to Estrella, California, following here his brother, John Weir, a settler in the year 1864. As soon as possible, Peter Weir homesteaded and improved one hundred twenty acres, which now, in his retirement at the age of eighty-seven, he rents to his son, Henry. George's mother, who was Frl. Catherine Stroh before her marriage, and was also a native of Germany, died in 1891.

One of seven boys, four of whom are now living, George Weir was brought up in St. Louis until he was nine years old, attending the public schools there as well as in Estrella; and as a boy he learned both the blacksmith trade and how to run a thrasher. Until his nineteenth year, too, he helped his father; but a dry year having rendered agriculture unprofitable,



he quit the farm and went to San Francisco, entering the machine shops of the California Street Railway. When the car strike of 1907 broke out, however, he left that city and removed to San Leandro, where he engaged with the Best Harvester Co., and after two years he pushed on to Bakersfield. Still later, he was with the Standard Oil Co. in the Kern River field, and in Midway was their engineer and machinist. Then, for nearly two years, he was the machinist in charge of the Bakersfield garage.

With a clear and valuable record for conscientious, painstaking service, George Weir resigned the last-mentioned engagement to accept a post with the Producers Transportation Co., going to the Junction for four months as fireman and then putting in two years as engineer at Antelope, from which place, in 1913, he came to Creston Station, where he was engineer in charge. The well-being of three engines, aggregating thirteen hundred h. p., together with pumps capable of handling 2,324 barrels an hour, and over a million barrels a month, was entrusted to his intelligence, experience and care. On February 9, 1917, he was promoted to be foreman in charge of the tank farm at San Luis Obispo for the same company.

While at Bakersfield, Mr. Weir was married, on June 12, 1910, to Miss Eda Van Harreveld, a native of Haarlem, Holland. She is a daughter of Bertlemes Phillips and Catherine (Weller) Van Harreveld; the mother died some years ago and the father is a business man in Haarlem. Of their six children, four are in California, Mrs. Weir being the second oldest and having come to the Coast in 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Weir have one child, a son, Louis. Mr. Weir was made a Mason in San Miguel Lodge No. 285, F. & A. M., and is a member of San Luis Obispo chapter, Royal Arch Masons, and of the Woodmen of the World. In national politics, Mr. Weir is a Republican. He gladly gives of his time and means to aid all worthy movements promoted for the benefit of the people of the county.

**JACKSON RODKEY MATNEY.** Two old, prosperous families, with all the interesting history usually found in annals of such successful pioneers, are represented in Mr. and Mrs. Jackson Rodkey Matney, whom fortune made esteemed residents of Creston, whereas Mr. Matney's grandfather, Carl Matney, crossed the plains from the East to Oregon. There J. R. Matney's father, Carl Sumner Matney, was born. He came to Modoc county, Cal., a young man, and grew up in the stock business. In 1881, Carl S. Matney removed to Tulare county, but after six years came to San Luis Obispo. Even then he was not ready to settle down; for a while he farmed west of Templeton, in the Ascencion district, but then removed to Santa Maria, where he bought a farm and commenced the raising of beans. Succeeding in the experiment, he leased other lands and expanded his business steadily until, in 1911, he died. Carl S. Matney's wife, who had been Miss Terrah Patterson, was a native daughter of California, and died in November, 1915. Her father, Joseph Patterson, crossed the plains to California as a pioneer and was an early settler and stockman.

The second eldest of six children, and one who was taken about a good deal in his childhood and youth, Jackson R. Matney attended school more or less irregularly until he was fourteen, when he had to push out for himself. Then he began to work on a ranch, where he learned to raise stock and grain. After a while, he rented some land at Creston, including a part of the Ambrose ranch and the Commercial Bank lands, and having farmed that for a year,



He took the lonely place of nine hundred acres, which he operated for four years, farming it to grain and stock.

In 1916, Mr. Matney leased the place he now manages, adding since then the Mosher farm of 1,850 acres, and using the whole for general farming and stock-raising. He has chosen for his brand, now well known, the rather original design of a 7 and an L, so joined as one symbol that it almost resembles the letter Z. For the raising of his wheat and barley, he keeps one big team more than busy.

Many couples go to historic old San Luis Obispo to be joined in holy wedlock, and so it was with Jackson Rodkey Matney, when he married Miss Blenda Hansen, a native of San Luis Obispo County, and the daughter of Lars O. S. Hansen, a pioneer residing at that county seat. One child—Jackson Elsworth Matney—has resulted from this marriage.

A good citizen of Republican political tenets, Mr. Matney is serving the public well as school trustee of the Iron Springs district.

**CLYDE WORDEN.**—A young native son who is making his mark, and one, by the way, who is likely to stick, is Clyde Worden, who has the distinction of being the first child born—December 18, 1893—in the town of Shandon. His father is Solomon Truman Worden, a native of Adrian, Mich., with a Civil War record such as any one might be proud of, who visited Northern California, then came to this county, and finally located near San Luis Obispo. The first settler at Shandon, he built there the first house—afterward known at the Hotel Shandon—although, in his later years, he has removed to the Southland, and now resides in Long Beach. Mrs. Worden, who was known before marriage as Miss Clara Skellenger, has been twice joined in wedlock. She was first wedded to a Mr. Allen, and then to Mr. Worden.

Clyde Worden, the youngest of three children, attended the public schools at Shandon, where he grew up until, at the age of nineteen, he entered the employ of the Producers Transportation Co., a concern always on the lookout for bright young men, and then particularly desirous of the best material for aid in constructing their great pipe-line. With pick and shovel he began at the bottom, and walked the line, for two years, between the four stations and the Junction, looking for leaks, and digging into the ground, calking and hammering the pipe where trouble was detected and the source discovered. He then became fireman, first at Antelope, then at Coalinga, and finally at Middle Water. For a time his labors were interrupted when an accident nearly cost him his life.

A bursting boiler missed his body by only four or five feet, but the shock so bruised and incapacitated him that he was laid up in the hospital for a month, and was then compelled to take a three months' vacation to fully recuperate. When he returned to work, it was to serve as gauger at Port San Luis, after which he washed the boilers, for three months, at Santa Margarita in order to get used again to the business. Finally he was fireman at the Junction, and once again at Antelope. The third of November, 1916, saw him transferred to Creston, where he holds the same position. He is also assiduously studying engineering.

At old San Luis Obispo Clyde Worden was married to Miss Pearl Waite, a native of the Eagle district, and a daughter of A. W. and Emma (Hopper) Waite, long highly-respected residents there.

**JOHN WORK.**—A resident of California for the past thirty-six years and of his present place for thirty years, and a pioneer who has both witnessed the wonderful transformations wrought in the development of the Golden State, and has become a part of the miracle, John Work was born at Littleness, in the Shetland Islands, in 1861, the son of Thomas Work, who was also born there, as were his forefathers for generations. Grandfather Captain Thomas Work was a seafaring man, and for years master of a whaler, until he settled down on land at the age of sixty-five. He died when ninety-nine years old.

Thomas Work also followed the sea, but as a fisherman, and in addition he was a farmer. When he married, he chose Agnes Robertson, another native of that section, for his wife, a young woman who came from the mainland. The mother died when John was fifteen years old, and Thomas Work finally came to California and spent his last days with the subject of our sketch, dying in his sixty-seventh year. He was prominent in the Baptist Church, and served as a local preacher, and he was therefore much interested in spreading the gospel to all men.

Mr. and Mrs. Work had five children. The eldest was John, of this review. Then came Janet, later Mrs. Garrick, in San Francisco; Mary, who died in Monterey; Agnes, Mrs. Atkins, who resides near Watsonville; and Thomas A., who lives in Pacific Grove, where he is a prominent builder and real estate operator. Thomas A. Work is president of the First National Bank of Monterey.

John Work was brought up in the Shetland Islands, and was educated in the private schools of his home region. In 1878, when he was seventeen years old, he came to the United States and proceeded to Detroit, where he had two aunts living; and soon after he was in the employ of Pingree & Smith, shoe manufacturers, following which he came to Estabrook Park, in Colorado.

That was in 1880, and after a four months' stay there, he removed west to California, arriving in the spring of 1881. He first located in Monterey, where he was employed on a ranch, of which he became, in time, foreman. This was the ranch that supplied Monterey and Pacific Grove residents with milk, and Mr. Work was kept busy enough to meet all demands and maintain the high standard he had set for his dairy products.

About 1887, or during the great California boom, Mr. Work came to the vicinity of San Miguel, and just in time to witness the development of the railroad there. He purchased his first one hundred sixty acres, buying a possession right and paying therefor one thousand dollars. He selected the place because it had a good spring, pre-empting and proving up, and began to farm and raise stock. He broke up the land, and soon had a hundred twenty-five acres under the plow. The progress made at the start was slow enough, and in looking back it seemed to the ambitious ranchman almost impossible to accomplish anything worth while with wheat selling at sixty-five cents per cental, steers at fifteen dollars per head, hogs at less than three cents per pound, and work-horses at twenty-five dollars each. He saw the necessity for larger areas of land to range his stock, and to permit him to rest the land two or three years between crops.

Having come to his conclusions and decided on a more extensive program, Mr. Work began purchasing land as soon as his means would permit,

turning over the sections adjoining whenever one was for sale; and now he has about 7,000 acres in a body, which he has tenced into fields of about a thousand acres each. Here, by the aid of a system of summer fallowing, he is raising good crops.

The Work ranch is located in the old Independence precinct of the Ranchito Cañon, where over thirty families originally made their home. In grain raising they sow about seven hundred acres a year, and operate with three big teams, using a combined harvester to gather the crop. They have barns in the different fields for hay and for sheltering the stock during the work season, thus accommodating the horses without the necessity of making trips to and from work. He is also engaged extensively in raising cattle of the Durham and Hereford strain, carrying about three hundred head on the place. He built a comfortable and commodious residence, and the yard is overshadowed by a majestic oak, one of the largest in these parts.

Mr. Work is philanthropic, enterprising and public-spirited, and ever ready to help those who have been less fortunate. He is also a stockholder in the First National Bank of Monterey, and is president of Mission Warehouse Co. in San Miguel that built the large iron warehouse there for the storing of hay.

In Ranchito Cañon occurred the marriage of John Work and Mattie Jones, who was born in Canton, Mo., the daughter of John T. Jones. He settled in this vicinity about thirty years ago, was a pioneer farmer, and died here. His widow, Mrs. Hanna, resides at Vineyard Cañon. Mr. and Mrs. Work have four children living: Agnes is engaged in the millinery business in Winters; Robert, who is a graduate of Heald's Business College of San Jose, is now operating the ranch; Belle, a graduate of Heald's Business College, is Mr. Work's bookkeeper, and Alice is a senior at the Paso Robles high school.

Popular in social circles, Mr. Work is particularly so among the Masons, having been made a member of that order in San Miguel Lodge, No. 285, F. & A. M. He is also a member, with his wife and two eldest daughters, of the Order of the Eastern Star. Mrs. Work and the children are members of the Christian Church. In matters of national politics, Mr. Work is an ardent Republican.

**JOHN J. RYAN.**—Whoever has enjoyed the comfortable hospitality of the Creston House, and realized how much its successful management reflects the attraction and prosperity of the town, must have felt that the well-known hostelry has always reflected the progressive and sterling character of its proprietor, John J. Ryan, also engaged in the raising of cattle and horses. Born near Kilmeedy, County Limerick, Ireland, June 12, 1882, the son of a farmer, he attended the public schools of his locality, and at the age of eighteen went to London, where he secured work as a baggage-man on the London & North Western Railway. After six months of that service, he put in a year with a contractor who transformed the street railways, equipping them with electric instead of horse-power.

Having concluded another year there as check-man in control of the building materials, John Ryan came to Canada in 1903, and went to work in Ontario for half a year's farming. He then started for Oregon, but on account of heavy snows at Salt Lake City he changed his course and his destination, and made for California, arriving in San Francisco in October, 1904.

For six months he was with a cement contractor; but having a cousin, M. H. Ambrose, residing in Creston—whom, by the way, he ran across accidentally in the northern metropolis, by noting his name on a hotel register—Mr. Ryan came to Creston, where he has since made his home. He began to work at driving big teams for John McDonald, and after a year started in farming for himself on the Ambrose ranch.

At the end of twelve months, Mr. Ryan married, at the old Mission church in San Luis Obispo, Miss Mary Ann O'Donovan, a native Californian and a daughter of the pioneer, Patrick O'Donovan, whose interesting history is found elsewhere in this work. She grew up at Creston. After his marriage, Mr. Ryan still continued farming, on a different part of the Ambrose ranch, managing from four hundred to six hundred acres, a part of which was devoted to stock-raising. So successful was he that he maintained two big teams; but tiring of farming, at least for a time, he sold his outfit and, in October, 1915, ventured into the hotel business, buying out the Schlegel Hotel, and making of it the favorite Creston hotel and livery. About the same period, he became interested in other enterprises, continuing to raise stock, for which he leased a range, placing there a hundred head or more of cattle, horses and hogs, bearing his registered brand, the separate letters, J R.

Five children, Mary, Isabelle, Patrick, John and Joseph, give unbounded happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Ryan, and attend with them the Saint Rose Catholic church at Paso Robles. Mr. Ryan is a member of the Knights of Columbus at San Luis Obispo. In politics he is a Democrat.

**ALFRED AUGUSTE DUBOST.**—Somewhere else in our remarkable collection of biographical studies appears the interesting story of Auguste Dubost, the pioneer who made good despite the heavy odds once against him; but nowhere in that story will be found a single fact of which that gentleman is more proud than he is of the success of his son, Alfred Auguste Dubost, the well-known merchant and popular postmaster of Adelaida, who was born in that favored place on December 4, 1882, the oldest of three children. Spending his boyhood and youth at home and in attendance at the public school and at St. Mary's College, in Oakland, he helped his father on the ranch, and then clerked in the store at Adelaida, as well as at Cayucos, during the three years when the Dubosts owned that establishment.

In 1910, Alfred began farming on his own account, taking his father's ranch, for a while, and then bought out the merchants, McKeon Bros. As a result, he has since continued the general merchandise business at Adelaida, where, since 1910, he has also been postmaster; in which office he is ably assisted, as in the management of his store, by his energetic wife. On the farm that he controls, he raises grain, hay and choice cattle, and in the main has met with satisfactory returns.

In Paso Robles Alfred Dubost was married to Miss Alexanderine Lejuez, a native of Cherbourg, France, from which country, in 1911, she came to California; and two children, Frankie and Raymond, have blessed this marriage.

A loyal citizen and an enthusiastic native son, with Republican preferences in matters pertaining to national politics, Mr. Dubost has for six years been a member of the Republican County Central Committee, often doing in that field and under that banner yeoman service making for better government and greater business prosperity.

**HANS I. JESPERSEN.**—How an enterprising man, with confidence both in himself and in the community in which he cast his fortune, found it possible, by studying that community's needs, to rise to commercial and financial leadership, is shown in the interesting story of Hans I. Jespersen, a native of Kirkeby, Schleswig, Denmark, where he was born in August, 1863. His father was Christian Hansen Jespersen, a native of that district, and a ship's carpenter, who had married there Anna Botella Iversen, also a native of Schleswig. About 1867, they came to the United States and to Watsonville, California, where they engaged in grain and stock-raising; but in 1871 or '72 they located in San Luis Obispo County. There Mr. Jespersen bought a farm of eighty-five acres in Los Osos Valley, four miles from San Luis Obispo, and to this he added until he has about four hundred acres there—all good farming land—which he rents out, while he lives retired in San Luis Obispo.

Of five boys and two girls, six of whom are living, Hans was the oldest child. He was brought up in California, attending the public school at Los Osos and at Laguna. From a lad he was initiated into the vigorous work of the farm, and learned in particular, while he rode the range, how to care for stock. Until his seventeenth year he remained at home, when he began to work out on other farms. Some of his first ranch work was in dairying, and for thirteen years he conducted a dairy, supervising the milking of forty cows, and doing things more or less by the old-fashioned methods of the time. He had a milk business at San Luis Obispo, and supplied it from the same dairy. All went well until 1898, when the lack of feed was so great that he had to quit the business.

Thereupon he started again in farming near Edna, and devoted himself to the raising of grain and stock. In 1904, he came to Creston, and leased a part of the Sacramento ranch. There he ran about a thousand acres, and for three years put in about four hundred acres a year to grain. He then bought a ranch near Creston, and conducted his own place of a hundred seventy acres, managing a dairy and raising stock. He leased six hundred forty acres, and planted that to grain.

In 1913, he sold the place, and straightway formed a partnership with Gustav W. Fast, with whom he farmed on Estrella ranch. Together they operated 1,240 acres, and raised nearly six hundred acres of wheat and barley a year. This necessitated the use of three large teams; but they were equal to the demands and continued there until the 1st of September, 1916. They then bought the old Russell place at Cholame, which included about three hundred thirty acres, at the same time that they leased another nineteen hundred acres adjoining, where they raised cattle, horses and hogs. They made a specialty of Percheron draft horses, and became interested in the ownership of the stallion Nelaton. Seeing the need of a general merchandise store and blacksmith shop, Messrs. Jespersen & Fast opened their well-known store, in which Mr. Jespersen, who is postmaster, has the post office. They also have a hotel and a feed store there.

In San Luis Obispo of many festival memories, Hans I. Jespersen was married, on April 21, 1886, to Lizzie K. Stone, a daughter of Leonard and Mary (Fredericks) Stone, born in Maine and Germany respectively. The father came to California about 1849, while the mother reached here in 1865. They became farmers in San Luis Obispo County as early as 1875. Her

mother was a well-known nurse, and followed that profession until she retired. She died at the age of eighty-one. The father passed away when he was fifty-seven. They had five children: Eva Botella, now Mrs. Laurence Hansen, who conducts a dairy near San Luis Obispo; Irma L., who has become the wife of Harry Pond, the under-sheriff at the county seat; Elva Stone, who is Mrs. Gustav W. Fast; Rena, who is at the San Luis Obispo high school; and Allen, who is with his father.

Mr. Jespersen is a Democrat. He served for two years as clerk of the board of trustees of the Phillips school district, and is now clerk of the board of the Cholame district. He is a member of the Sulphur Springs Camp of the Woodmen of the World, at Paso Robles, and is also a member of the Dania Society No. 16, in San Luis Obispo.

**JAMES J. MAHONEY.**—The title of pioneer was justly merited by J. J. Mahoney, for in boyhood he came to this county with his father in 1868, when this section was but sparsely settled, and later became identified with its business and farming interests. James J. Mahoney was born near Whiskey Town, Shasta county, May 10, 1863, a son of James Mahoney, who was born and raised in Boston, and was clerking in a store there when the gold fever seized him. He came to California via Panama in 1850, and mined in the vicinity of Shasta county, where he was reasonably successful.

In 1867, he engaged in the hotel business in Whiskey Town, and in 1868 went to San Francisco; and soon afterward came to San Luis Obispo looking for a location. In the spring he pre-empted land, and having returned for his family, he settled on the place. There were no improvements of any kind, and he went to work with a will and made a fine home ranch, built his house, fenced, broke the ground and engaged in raising stock, cattle and sheep, using the brand JM, which was later used also by his son. He raised grain and had a dairy of thirty cows, panning and skimming the milk, and churning by hand, and sold the butter at the ranch for one dollar a roll. He was the first to make butter in this section. He bought more land and at the time of his death had a large acreage.

He built the first school house here; it was made of adobe brought from the mission, and was the only one between Salinas and San Luis Obispo, and he was trustee for years. He married Hannah Wade in Boston, in November, 1847, and they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1897. He died in 1903, aged eighty-four, and his wife died in 1908, also aged eighty-four. They had five children, three growing to maturity—Mrs. Mary Murray, of Marin county; D. F., recorder of San Luis Obispo County, and James J.

James J. Mahoney was raised in this county, attending the public school held in the old adobe and working on his father's ranch, which he helped to clear and improve. In 1907, he went to Nevada and at Battle Mountain bought a mine which he began developing. He put in six years there, and incorporated the Pittsburg Red Top Mining Co., of which he was manager. He also developed and managed the Pittsburg Gold Hill Mining Co. In 1912 he returned to the home ranch and thereafter operated it with good success until his death in July, 1917. In politics Mr. Mahoney was an Independent Progressive. He was a charter member of San Miguel Parlor No. 150, Native Sons of the Golden West, of which he was a past president. His property included 3,300 acres in one body, fenced and improved; and here the family are raising Durham cattle, grain, and hay.

**ALBERT MENG.**—An honest, straightforward, enterprising and successful man, who has risen by indomitable energy from modest circumstances to comfortable affluence and who, therefore, is a credit to himself and to the community in which he resides, is Albert Meng, the well-known and popular grain and stock farmer in the Cholame valley. Born in Cincinnati, O., in 1806, he was the son of Sebastian Meng, a native of Kuhr, Graubunden, Switzerland. Traditional history, as handed down from one generation to another, tells us that the Meng family goes back to England, where there were five brothers of that name who came to Switzerland as English knights, during a religious war, and fought for the Swiss Republic. Three of the knights were slain in battle, but two survived and settled in the country, and so became the ancestors of the now celebrated Swiss Meng family. Albert's father was a carpenter by trade, but he also followed farming. He was married there to Miss Anne Wilhelm, a native of that section. Together they came to the United States and settled in Ohio, after which they removed to Kansas City, Mo. Ten years later they went to Baxter Springs, Kan., and then to the Indian Territory, where Sebastian Meng continued farming. In the fall of 1886 he brought his family to California, and located in San Luis Obispo County. The elder Meng had already made a trip to San Francisco as early as 1871, working at the carpenter's trade there for two years, after which he returned East; and finding that railroad lands had reverted to the government, he determined to come here again and seek a homestead.

He first pre-empted a hundred sixty acres, which his son Albert now owns and which includes the present site of his residence, and afterwards homesteaded land adjoining and across the road, so that he had three hundred twenty acres in all. He hauled lumber from San Luis Obispo for his house, and built a comfortable and attractive home there. The next year he began breaking the ground with a two-horse team, and he followed general farming until his death in 1903, at the age of eighty-two. His wife had died two years previously, eighty-three years old.

Of the six children who grew to maturity, four are living, and Albert is the youngest, and the only son. When he was two years old, his parents removed from Ohio to Kansas City, and in due time he was attending the schools there, continuing his schooling in Baxter Springs. He, too, began farming as a lad in Kansas and in the Indian Territory; and on the removal of the family to Cholame, he was able to make himself more than useful on a ranch. When of age he pre-empted ninety acres, and later he secured a homestead of a hundred sixty acres convenient to his father's place. As soon as he could do so, he began raising grain, cattle and horses, and in this business he has made a real success.

Striving for a specialty in Durham cattle and English shire horses, Albert Meng's brand—an M with a quarter circle above it—has been recognized as a symbol of merit. For some years, too, he raised mules, but he is now breeding, for the most part, English shire horses. Success having favored him on all sides, he bought his father's place, and has added to the ranch until he now owns two thousand two hundred acres. This is all well fenced in, and finely located in Cholame valley, three miles above the Cholame post office. About five hundred acres of this ranch is plowed land, and there he usually raises about three hundred acres of grain a year. When

the combined harvester appeared and proved itself a success, Albert Meng, in partnership with a neighbor, bought one, and managed the same for many years. Now, however, although he uses two big teams on the ranch, he hires the harvester out.

In December, 1906, Mr. Meng was married at San Luis Obispo to Mrs. Julia (Railing) Truesdale, a native of Lima, O., and a daughter of Isaac Railing, who saw honorable service in the Civil War as a member of an Ohio regiment. Her mother had been Miss Susan Cochrane. She was first married in Ohio to Mr. Truesdale, and in 1875 they came to Ventura county and afterward to Los Angeles. In 1892, they removed to Shandon and there she became a widow. By her first marriage she had five children: John A., who died in San Luis Obispo; Daisy D., now Mrs. Timmin, of Newman; William Elmer, who resides in Sacramento; James Alfred, who is in Shandon, and Lulu, who has become Mrs. Perry McDowell, of Gustine, Merced county.

Albert Meng, always willing to serve his fellow-citizens, was for six years trustee of the Cholame school district. He is a Democrat and conspicuous in the councils of his party.

**DOUGLAS A. TUCKER.**—It would be difficult to find a man more emphatically in accord with the true western spirit of progress, or more keenly alive to the opportunities awaiting the industrious and intelligent man of affairs in the section about San Miguel than in Douglas A. Tucker, who has built up a successful stock business and identified himself with the best undertakings in his district. He was born near Booneville, Cooper county, Mo., May 8, 1847, a son of Douglas A. Tucker, a native of Virginia who was orphaned at an early age. He went to Missouri a young man, farmed and there married Maria Bronaugh, a Virginian.

In 1849, he left home with a team of oxen and started across the plains to make his fortune in the mines of California, made a successful "strike" here, and returned to his home, intending to bring his family back to this state; but his wife refused to leave her home and he settled down to farming there. In 1858 he entered government land in Henry county, paying one dollar and twenty-five cents per acre. It was located seventeen miles from Clinton, and here he developed a valuable farm. When the War broke out he was in the path of the conflict, and he lost his crops and stock and was "broke"; but going back to Cooper county, he tried to retrieve his fortunes. He never got on his feet again, however, and died there at the age of eighty-eight years, his wife also dying there. They had six children, five of whom are now living.

The fourth child in the family, Douglas A., Jr., was reared in Henry and Cooper counties, Missouri, and attended the common schools there until he was a young man, when he was married to Mollie J. White, a native of Missouri, whose parents had come from Virginia to that state and settled in an early day. Our subject farmed in Cooper and adjoining counties in Missouri until 1888, when he decided he would try his luck in California; so he left his eastern home and brought his wife and children here, stopping the first year in Riverside.

He then came to San Luis Obispo County and located a homestead in 1889. He built a small house, and worked out for wages in order to make a living while he was improving the ranch. He did anything that came his



no matter how long the hours were or how hard the work, or how low the wages, receiving only one dollar a day for plowing with an eight or ten mule team. In time he had his place so he could use it for a stock ranch, and gradually he improved it and now has one hundred seventy acres under fence. He raised hogs of the Poland-China breed, and cattle, and his brand, the letter T, is well known. His range was dotted with mountain springs furnishing water for his stock, and he usually turned out two droves of hogs

of each

In 1914, in October, Mr. Tucker rented his ranch and located in San Miguel on account of his wife's health, bought the fine residence on the mesa where he now lives, and built large barns for his stock. He and his son Ernest lease a ranch of nine hundred acres eight miles from town. They have a ten-mule and a ten-horse team for their ranch work. In addition Mr. Tucker does teaming and hauling. He has worked behind horses since he was eight years of age, and can handle anything that he can draw the lines over.

Mr. Tucker considers California his best friend, for here he has made his success in life and gained a competence for his family. He has always been much interested in school work and served as trustee for many years. In politics he is a Democrat, but has never sought office. Mr. and Mrs. Tucker are the parents of five children: Hattie, Mrs. Jacob Doty, resides in San Miguel; Mildred, Mrs. Ernest Bergeman, is at San Miguel; Florence, Mrs. Scow, died in 1904; Ernest farms with his father; and Everet died in early childhood.

**WILLIAM ELLIS.**—William Ellis was born in King township, York county, Ontario, Canada, March 15, 1843, the son of Henry and Syrena (Hambley) Ellis, natives of England and Nova Scotia respectively. They were farmers in Wellington county, Ontario, and had a family of six children as follows: Mary Ann, who died in Ontario; James, who resides near Pacific Grove; William, the subject of this review; Ellen and Enoch C., who died in Ontario; and Mrs. Lydia Patterson, who resides in Oregon.

William Ellis spent his early years working on his father's farm and attending the public schools in his vicinity. In 1863 his father died, and William then assisted his mother on the farm until he reached his majority, after which he farmed for himself until 1886. He then decided to remove to California, and in April, 1886, located a pre-emption of one hundred sixty acres, his present home in Hog cañon, or Pleasant Valley, Monterey county. He broke the first furrow, and improved the place with residence and buildings, later adding a quarter section to it. Here he is raising grain and stock, and has met with good success.

On March 11, 1884, Mr. Ellis was married in Ontario to Miss Sarah Ann Honsinger, who was born near Toronto, but was reared in Wellington county, Ontario, the daughter of James and Jane (Mathews) Honsinger. To Mr. and Mrs. Ellis three children have been born. Ruby May, now Mrs. Daman, resides near Morgan Hill; Wilbert J. is assisting his father on the farm; and Bella J. also resides at home. The family are members of the M. E. Church at Estrella.

Mr. Ellis has made three trips back to Ontario. The last trip was taken in 1907. After visiting Ontario, the family, on their return to California, were more satisfied than ever with their adopted home.

**THOMAS P. GORHAM.**—Among the successful business men of San Miguel who have contributed both to the building up and the beautifying of this attractive town, is Thomas P. Gorham, who was born in Atlanta, Ill., on June 13, 1863, and came to California in 1885, settling the next year at San Miguel. Thomas' great-grandfather, Hezekiah, a New England farmer, traced his ancestors back to the celebrated Mayflower, his folks drifting afterward into Vermont at the time of its early settlement. His grandfather, David Gorham, married Rachael Stiles, also of an old New England family, and in 1850 came to Racine, Wis., the couple eventually spending their last days in Nebraska. Mr. Gorham's great-uncle, George C. Gorham, was candidate for Governor of California and ran against Governor Haight, the Democratic nominee. Thomas' father was A. F. Gorham, a Vermonter born in Rutland. He settled in Wisconsin and then in Chicago, where he became a dealer in coal, prospering until he was burned out by the great fire. Following this catastrophe, he took up a homestead and went to farming in Harlan county, Neb.; but new disaster in the form of drought and grasshoppers beset him. The year 1885 found him in Pomona, California, and in 1886 he came to San Miguel, where for a while he engaged in the furniture business.

After a life of unusual activity A. F. Gorham, retired, still resides here, at the age of eighty. His wife, née Helen E. King, who was born at Joliet, Ill., and whose grandfather had a well-known sash and door manufactory, died in 1896. Three children were born of their union: A. M. Gorham, who resides in Stockton; R. E. Gorham, who lives at Monterey, and Thomas, the subject of our sketch. The latter was brought up on farms in Illinois and Nebraska, attending there the public schools, and was early employed in the furniture business, into which his father had ventured. Next he learned the carpenter's trade, and when he removed to San Miguel he followed that occupation, soon becoming a contractor and builder. For years he was the principal contractor of this place, putting up residences, business houses, schools, and churches, both frame and brick; and in this field his ability was acknowledged. In 1908, however, he quit this field to devote all his time to mercantile business. Five years before he had bought out his brother's interest, and he is now engaged in general merchandising under the firm name of Gorham & Sonnenberg.

In 1892, Mr. Gorham bought the water works of San Miguel; and during the past twenty-four years he has introduced such improvements, and so added to the equipment, that the plant, with its reservoir on the hill—cemented, and having a capacity of 163,000 gallons—its steam pumps and electric motors, all distributing water with a thirty-five pound pressure, may well be considered equal to any in a town of similar size in the State. Rather naturally, Mr. Gorham has served for many years as chief of the fire department, which has a chemical cart, a hook-and-ladder truck, and some 450 feet of hose. This enterprising man has also engaged, as owner, in the real estate business, building and selling the houses he has constructed. Among others he owns several business buildings, as well as his fine residence and garage, the latter with cement floors; and all of these he built.

Mrs. Gorham, who was married at San Miguel, was known in childhood as Elizabeth Sonnenberg, the daughter of George Sonnenberg, a poultry dealer of Mountain View, Santa Clara county, where she was raised. Mr.

and Mr. Gorham have four children—Helen E., now Mrs. Ramsey, of San Miguel; Edna B., who is one of the clever young ladies in the class of '17 at the Paso Robles high school; Lucile and Thomas Albert. Mr. Gorham is a Republican and he belongs to the Woodmen of the World. Mrs. Gorham has served as school trustee, is past president of San Miguel Parlor No. 94, N. D. G. W., and is district deputy for this county. Both belong to the Fraternal Brotherhood.

**WILLIAM HENRY KITCHEN.** It may be that neither William Henry Kitchen nor his worthy wife have much time nowadays to talk about the remote past, engrossed as they are in the still more absorbing affairs of a progressive present, such as they themselves have helped to bring about; but if Mr. Kitchen can be persuaded to chat about the days long gone, he will tell many a good story in which Oak Flat and Dry Creek figure, and none perhaps more likely to stir your imagination than the tale of how the Daltons started on their mad career of bloody crime after they had been for some years his peaceful and apparently decent and amiable neighbors and fellow citizens.

Born at Castroville, Monterey county, February 3, 1866, he grew up under the ruder conditions of a civilization that was in the making, and early learned to hustle for himself. His father was George Kitchen, a native of Arkansas, who crossed the plains to California when the buffalo and the Indian disputed his right of passage and when a man had to toe the chalk-line mighty carefully after his arrival in the land of gold not to run up against some of the precepts of the gold digger, a violation of which usually cost the offender his life. After mining awhile for gold, George Kitchen settled in Mendocino county, and near Ukiah he was married to Matilda Eubank, whose father had crossed the plains with ox-teams and become a pioneer of that county. George Kitchen engaged in the lumbering and logging business at Mendocino City, and it was there that his wife died when her son, William H., was but five years old. Mr. Kitchen went from Mendocino county to Castroville, where he engaged in raising stock until 1879, when he moved to San Luis Obispo County and spent a year on the Estrella ranch. He next spent three years near Arroyo Grande and then came to Dry creek, where he homesteaded one hundred sixty acres seven miles from what is now Paso Robles; and in due time he added another quarter section to his holdings. He died at Gonzales.

There were three other children in the family of George Kitchen: Nellie, who married Foote Rhyne of San Jose; Annie, now Mrs. Houghton of San Miguel; and George, who is with his brother, William H.

William Henry Kitchen was educated in the public schools of his day and in boyhood began to work as a driver of a team; and as he grew older he drove a header wagon on land that is now a part of Paso Robles. A stranger visiting the James family and a comparatively young man with very pleasing address seemed to enjoy spending considerable of his time riding with Mr. Kitchen on the header wagon. Weeks afterwards he learned that the affable young man was none other than Frank James, who was staying there incog. When William Kitchen was of age, he located a homestead of a hundred sixty acres, and pre-empted a like number of acres near his father's place on Dry creek about seven miles from Paso Robles. For fifteen years he raised stock and grain on this ranch; but in

1902 he sold it and moved into Paso Robles, and soon started the Fashion Stables on Park street. In 1909 he sold out to W. H. Evans to engage in other business. After Mr. Evans sold the stables, he became a partner with Mr. Kitchen in a cigar store. They are also engaged in farming on the Huer-Huero river, owning a ranch four miles east of Paso Robles. With his sons, Arthur and Roy, Mr. Kitchen owns sixty acres on the Huer-Huero, where he has installed a pumping plant and is raising alfalfa and doing a good dairy business.

On November 1, 1887, Mr. Kitchen was united in marriage, at San Luis Obispo, with Miss Gertrude Jones, who was born at Buffalo, N. Y., the daughter of Watson and Marian (Halifax) Jones, natives of New York state and of England, respectively. The mother died when Mrs. Kitchen was a baby, and she was reared by an aunt, Mrs. Ellen Jones, and came with her to California in 1882, and in March, 1884, to San Luis Obispo County. She was the youngest of five children and is the only one residing in this state. Four children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen: Elmer, who conducts a pool hall at Santa Barbara; Otto, who runs a like establishment at Ventura; Arthur, who is also in that same business at Paso Robles, and Roy, a barber in the latter city. The fine home occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Kitchen was erected by them at Pine and Sixteenth streets. He is a Democrat in politics and in fraternal connections is a Forester.

**ED. HOLZINGER.**—An enterprising and progressive citizen who is making a success of more than one undertaking, and yet finds time within the round of twenty-four hours to advance educational work and so advance the interests of the youth of his community. Ed. Holzinger is a man of affairs at Creston, where he is engaged in general merchandising. He is a son of Martin Holzinger, a sketch of whose life is given elsewhere in these pages. Born near Rock Island, Henry county, Ill., May 29, 1875, the oldest of four children, he came with his parents to California in 1884, having thus spent the first nine years of his boyhood in the Prairie State. After coming to California, he attended the public schools at Geneseo and Creston, and then went to Ramsey's Business College at Stockton, where he was graduated in 1896. After clerking six months in a store, he returned to his father's farm, and he and his father and a brother, Albert, engaged together in agriculture. They made the old home their headquarters until their father died, operating some eight hundred acres and employing two or three large teams.

After his father's death, he began farming for himself, leasing a ranch of some eight hundred acres, half of which he sowed to wheat and barley each year. To till the soil and handle the crops, he used a couple of large teams, and he also became interested in a combined harvester that not only met their own requirements, but served some of their neighboring ranchers as well. More than this, he has raised draft horses. He has experienced such good results that he has continued farming ever since, and still operates the same place, superintending it and committing to others the responsibility of details.

In November, 1915, he entered the mercantile field, buying out F. G. Gilson & Co., at Creston, and becoming proprietor of the general merchandise store there. Besides a varied stock of general merchandise, including hardware, hay and grain, he had the post office located in his store, and was made

for some years he owned a hundred ten acres adjoining Creston, but lately he has disposed of this land.

In the same town with which he has thus become so prominently and so honorably identified, Ed. Holzinger married Miss Augusta Hansen, a native of Salinas and the daughter of Hans Hansen, an early settler and a farmer in that section who, in 1884, located near Creston. Herself an only child, she has had one son, Harold.

A Republican in matters of national politics, and more than once a member of the grand jury, Ed. Holzinger has been deputy county assessor for the past ten years. He was a school trustee at Creston for many years, serving as clerk of the board until two years ago, but after resigning he was re-elected to that responsible office. Fraternally he is a member of the Woodmen of the World.

**GUNDER GUNDERSON.**—A resident of San Miguel since 1889 and one of the well-known and highly respected citizens of San Luis Obispo County, G. Gunderson was born on June 10, 1860, in Arndal, Norway. His father, Gunder Gunderson, was a professional diver and successfully followed that vocation. He married Gunhild Aanensen and both are now deceased. G. Gunderson was reared in Arndal and attended school until he was fifteen, when he went to sea, sailing on deep water on the "Viga," "Landboe," "Hans Nielsen Hauge" and "Mississippi"; and on the latter he came to New York. At that port he left the sea and arrived in San Francisco, on May 17, 1881. Next he went to Antioch and worked on the boats running on the bay, and the coasting schooners, after which he worked at the carpenter trade in the cities around the bay.

Desiring to become an owner of land, he came to San Luis Obispo County in 1889, and in the vicinity of San Miguel hunted up some government land and located a homestead of one hundred sixty acres sixteen miles northeast of the town and over the line in Monterey county. Here he erected a log house, fenced and broke the land, and began in the stock business. He also set out a family orchard, and while improving his ranch he began working in the Southern Pacific Milling Company's warehouse in San Miguel, continuing for eighteen years, when he resigned to give all his attention to his alfalfa ranch. He located four springs on his ranch, and piped the water into troughs for the stock. Fifteen years later he sold out and located in San Miguel, purchasing a tract of fourteen acres adjoining town. This he leveled and checked, and planted alfalfa on eight acres. He has a pumping plant to supply water for irrigation, and raises alfalfa, hogs, cattle and poultry with success.

Mr. Gunderson was married in San Miguel to Miss Jessie J. Rader, who was born in Cambria on June 15, 1873, and whose parents crossed the plains in 1849 with ox-teams. They had one daughter, Evadne. Mrs. Gunderson passed away on November 9, 1914, leaving to mourn her loss a devoted husband and little daughter, besides a host of life-long friends. Since her death Mr. Gunderson has showered his love on his little daughter and his thought is for her future and comfort. He is a member of the Odd Fellows and of the Methodist Church, although he was reared a Lutheran, and he is a trustee of the San Miguel church. He is a Republican in politics and a strong advocate of the temperance cause. He is strictly a self-made man, and has a host of friends here in the county.

**GUSTAV W. FAST.**—So long as the spirit of community enterprise is fed and fostered by the energy and intelligence of such young men as Gust W. Fast, so long will California never be wanting in her lead as a favored agricultural state, or as a commonwealth for unlimited commercial development. Born near De Witt, Jefferson county, Neb., Gustav was the son of Nicholas and Elise (Tiahr) Fast, natives of West Prussia, who emigrated to Nebraska while they were young and single, and were married in the Black Water State. After that they farmed in Jefferson county, Neb. In 1898, they brought their family to San Luis Obispo County, and there Mr. Fast engaged in farming; but in 1909 they removed to Idaho, where they have since resided.

The second eldest of two boys and three girls, Gust was educated largely in San Luis Obispo County, from a youth aiding his parents in their farming operations, and choosing agriculture for his own occupation.

In 1913, he was married in Creston to Miss Elva Stone Jespersen, a native of this county, and a daughter of Hans I. Jespersen, who is elsewhere represented in this work; and after his marriage he entered into partnership with Mr. Jespersen, since which time they have been farming on a large scale. They operated 1,260 acres of the Estrella ranch until the fall of 1916, when they bought the present farm at Cholame. A description of their recent enterprises will be found in the sketch of Mr. Jespersen already referred to.

Two children—Gertrude and Elenor—brighten the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fast, and help make their hearth a center of hospitality to friend and stranger.

**JAMES CONSTANTINE THRALLS.**—If there be one class of persons in America whom everyone, high or low, and from the Government to the plainest citizen, loves to honor, it is such a veteran of the great Civil War as James Constantine Thralls, a fine old gentleman, every inch of him, with a lovely and splendid lady as his wife. The fourth youngest child, he first saw the light of day on December 1, 1843, at Saint Marys, Ind. His father, Jacob Thralls, was a Virginian by birth, who moved to Kentucky, where he married, and thence to Indiana to engage in farming. His mother was Mathilda Rhoades, one of the strikingly-fair daughters of far-famed Kentucky. The Thralls removed to Knox county, Mo., in 1857, and there the parents died. The mother, Mathilda Thralls, saw Abraham Lincoln on several occasions, and very interesting were some of her descriptions of the noted Abolitionist.

Of the twelve children, three are still living, two being in California: J. C. Thralls and Mrs. Virginia Hanes, who now makes her home with the subject of this review. A brother, George, was a member of the 3rd Missouri Cavalry from 1861 to 1863, when he died at Little Rock, Ark. James C. went to the public school at Edina, Knox county, Mo., and when only seventeen, at the first tap of the drum, in April, 1861, he entered the Missouri Home Guards as an enthusiastic volunteer. There he served for three months, when he enlisted in Co. B of the 3rd Missouri Cavalry and served for three years, in both Missouri and Arkansas, taking part in the engagements of his regiment. At the Battle of Mt. Zion he was wounded through the right hand; and what pluck and valor he displayed may be seen from the fact that he tied up the wound and went on fighting as before.

In 1864, he was mustered out, and returned to his home. For two years he farmed in Knox county, and at the end of that time moved to Loama, in Sangamon county, Ill. There he bought a residence and opened a carpenter-

ter's shop, and he also ran a blacksmith shop. In 1883, the call of Kansas drew him to Oswego, Labette county, where he was active as a carpenter, plasterer and blacksmith, and from there he went to Gaylord, in Smith county, where he opened a general blacksmith business and again bought a nice home.

With the flood of tourists to California in 1896, James C. Thralls moved what was left of his effects, after he had sold his home and business; and fascinated by the smiling aspect of old San Miguel, he located there and once more established himself in the blacksmithing business, in which he continued many years. In 1910, he disposed of his shop and business and retired to private life.

On September 25, 1865, Mr. Thralls had married, at an old Missouri homestead in Knox county, Miss Mary Helen Hammond, who was born in Springfield, Ill., a daughter of William and Emeline (Underwood) Hammond, natives of Kentucky and Tennessee, who had located in Sangamon county. Mr. Hammond was a carpenter and builder, and also a farmer, and finally he removed to Kansas with the Thralls; and there, at Gaylord, he died. In the Civil War, Mrs. Thralls' brother, Arthur C. Hammond, was a member of Company B, 30th Ill. Reg., serving three years, when he re-enlisted until the close of the war.

Mr. and Mrs. James C. Thralls have been blessed with six children: Owen G., who is employed in the Southern Pacific car shop in San Francisco; Fred C., who is manager of the Hardwood Floor Co., of Oakland, and resides at Alameda; Arthur, founder of Thralls & Co., merchants, San Miguel; Albert W., a clerk with Thralls & Co.; Bessie A., now Mrs. L. F. Jones, of Alameda's social circles; and Ethel L., who, as Mrs. A. L. Andrews, presides over a charming home at Guadalupe.

**MILTON STEWART STEVENSON.**—Although a newcomer to San Luis Obispo County, Milton S. Stevenson is not lacking in enthusiasm as to the county's possibilities, and particularly as to the section about San Miguel, where he owns a ranch of eight hundred acres of fine farming land. He was born in Des Moines, Ia., on July 23, 1892, a son of T. F. Stevenson, who was a native of Kentucky and went to Iowa, where he became a prominent attorney and judge in Des Moines. Finally retiring to private life, he located in Los Angeles, where he and his wife, who was in maidenhood Miss Janet Stewart, a native of Illinois, are living in the enjoyment of their surroundings and in a climate that lengthens life materially.

Milton S. Stevenson was educated in the public schools of Des Moines and took a two years' course at Drake University in Des Moines, after which he came to California and took a two years' course in the University at Redlands, next spending a year in Los Angeles. In 1915 he came to San Luis Obispo County and purchased eight hundred acres of ranch land near San Miguel and began to improve it. He has sixty acres planted to alfalfa, and has a pumping plant with a twenty horse power engine to pump the water for irrigating the land. He is here engaged in raising hogs, keeping the Poland-China breed exclusively, and is meeting with deserved success, being alive to the opportunities of his location.

Mr. Stevenson was united in marriage in San Diego with Miss Marian Roach, who was born in Riverside. On national political issues, Mr. Stevenson aligns himself with the Republican party.

**O. P. WAHLGREN.**—From time immemorial the poet has sung of the pleasures of country life, depicting the charm of nature and the still greater satisfaction of the man who, having conquered the earth about him and made it subservient to his will, retires perhaps in the heat of the day or the quiet cool of the evening to his own meditations, or the society of friends or books. Just this delightful life, apportioned between the demands of the day's labor and the pursuit of study and literary tastes, no one knows better how to appreciate than O. P. Wahlgren, who owns a valuable farm adjoining the town of Templeton, and never wants for agreeable mental occupation when the last stroke of farm work for the day has been done. A native of Elsborg, Sweden, where he was born on December 9, 1852, Mr. Wahlgren is the son of Anders and Brita (Larson) Wahlgren, farmer folks, who died in their native land. He was brought up on a farm, given a good education in the public schools, and at sixteen was apprenticed to a stone-cutter, where he learned the trade, together with masonry.

When he first came to the United States in 1880, O. P. Wahlgren expected to make but a flying trip and to return to the Old World. He went to New Orleans and from there made his way to San Antonio, Tex., where he was employed for a year in railroad construction. He next turned up at Albion, Ia., from which place he drifted to Sioux City, where he followed the same railroad occupation, adding, after a while, street grading and farming. To acquire the English language, he attended evening school and in this manner became proficient in its use.

In 1894, Mr. Wahlgren came to Templeton and purchased some land, to which he added from time to time, so that now he owns two hundred twenty acres adjoining the town on the west. These he has improved, fenced in and tilled, reserving a portion of the property for stock-raising and the growing of grain, as well as some poultry.

Mr. Wahlgren while in Iowa was a member of the Independent Order of Good Templars. In politics he is a Republican.

**FRED A. DEAN.**—Another of the native sons who have made good with their chosen occupation is Fred A. Dean, who was born in Stockton on October 4, 1872. His father, Louis Dean, was born in Gottenberg, Sweden, was the son of a ship chandler there and followed the sea for years. Louis Dean went to sea at the age of thirteen, traveled all over the world and into the most famous ports, rounded the Horn in 1850, and left his ship at San Francisco, when he went to the mines in Calaveras county. There he mined for a time and then moved to Mendocino county; and at Cuffey's Cove he teamed and got out lumber until March, 1886, when he drove overland to San Luis Obispo County.

He had married, in Calaveras county, Mrs. Sarah Elizabeth (Ellis) Cottle, who was a native of Illinois, and had come to California across the plains with her first husband in 1850, traveling by ox-teams to Calaveras county, where Mr. Cottle died. She had five children by her first marriage. From the second union only one child, a son, Fred A. Dean, was born. Mrs. Dean being an invalid when the family arrived here, her husband settled on a ranch two miles south of San Miguel, where he farmed and raised vegetables, and set out an orchard and vineyard; but as there was then no market, he let the vines and trees go back. He died here in December, 1902, his wife having passed away in March, 1900.



Dean was born one year old when his parents went to Mendocino county, where they remained until 1886, when they came to this county; and after completing the usual course at the San Miguel schools, he attended the San Francisco Business College in 1893. Returning to the ranch, he helped run it, and before the death of his father became its owner. The fine property consists of sixty acres located on the state highway devoted to alfalfa and the raising of Berkshire hogs, about two hundred being turned off yearly. The farm has a pumping plant run by electricity, to pump water from the river for irrigation.

Mr. Dean was united in marriage in San Miguel, on April 27, 1903, with Miss Myrtle Crow, a native of Johnson county, Texas, and they have one child, a daughter, Bertha Elizabeth. He has been prominently identified in politics in this section of the county, working for the interests of the Republican party, and for seven years served as deputy under Assessor John H. Hollister, or until the death of Mr. Hollister. He was apportioned the territory from the Monterey county line to six miles south of Templeton, and from the coast to Shandon district, in all a territory nearly thirty by thirty miles. In 1912, Mr. Dean was a candidate for the office of supervisor.

He is a member of the B. P. O. Elks, San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, and of the Fraternal Brotherhood. He has served as a school trustee of the San Marcos district for years and has taken an interest in advancing the standard of the schools of the county. Mr. Dean is much interested, as are all the natives of the state, in the preservation of the stories of the lives of the pioneers who blazed the trail from primitive conditions to our present day prosperity.

**JOSEPH EDWARD PALLA.**—Modest in the extreme, and far from inclined to boast of all that he has accomplished since first he put his shoulder to the wheel, Joseph Edward Palla is nevertheless a splendid example of what a man may do through enterprise, hard work and perseverance. Born in Pennsylvania on May 11, 1854, the son of John Palla, a very industrious native of Germany, and of Mary Palla, a typical Pennsylvania housewife, Joseph was fortunate in commencing his struggle with the world with an outfit of personal example, the force and value of which have never ceased to influence him in a marked degree. The second eldest of two boys and a girl, little Joseph came with his parents to Pleasanton, Linn county, Kan., where eventually they both died. As a boy he divided his time between the public schools and a farm, and in 1868, when only fourteen years of age, he set out to shift for himself on a trip to California by way of the Isthmus of Panama. Passing through San Francisco, he found work at dairying near Petaluma, and in that vicinity continued until 1888, in Sonoma and Marin counties.

At the height of the Southern California boom, Mr. Palla came to Orange county and bought a ranch of forty acres, five miles west of Santa Ana. There he sunk a well, put in a pumping plant, started a dairy, and planted the surplus land to alfalfa. His next undertaking was the management of the Robb skimming station, which he continued to superintend for five years. He found, however, that he could not well attend to another's interest while trying to develop his own; so he gave up the management of the station and devoted his whole time to his own ranch. He sold hay,

cultivated sugar beets for the Huntington Beach Sugar Factory, and took the best possible care of the ten cows in his dairy.

In 1911, Mr. Palla sold out and came to San Luis Obispo County, where he located at Geneseo, buying there two hundred twenty-seven acres, nearly all of which was tillable soil. Once more he put in a pumping plant, dug a pit near the Huer-Huero river, and installed a system of irrigation, which soon enabled him to view thirty flourishing acres well seeded to alfalfa. Now he has a dairy of thirty-two Holstein cows, all high grade cattle; and an abundance of water (distributed through fifteen hundred feet of cement pipe sunk two feet under ground and continued from the end of the cement line with galvanized pipe) is forced to the house, twelve hundred feet away, at an elevation of nine feet above the source. He has also had an Artesian well bored four hundred sixty-five feet deep near his house which yields a flow of twenty-five gallons of water per minute, while in the dairy the most improved separator gathers the cream, which is shipped to Soledad.

Some years ago at Tulare, Joseph Palla was married to Miss Alice Crayne, a native of Ohio, by whom he has had three girls and one boy. Tootsie is Mrs. Francis Shimmin, of Paso Robles; Helen is attending school in Berkeley; and Georgia and Brady are at home. These share with him, from time to time, his social life. He is an active member of Pixley Lodge No. 53, I. O. O. F., and of the Encampment. Mr. Palla has always been glad to serve his community; and his services, particularly as school trustee in Orange county, are deeply appreciated. He is a Republican.

**JAMES WIGHTMAN MARTIN.** The owner of one of the finest stock ranches on Paso Robles creek in the Templeton district, James Wightman Martin has added the most modern improvements to his establishment and has thereby placed it among the most creditable of San Luis Obispo County farms. In the manufacturing city of Belfast, Ireland, in the year 1862, James was born, the son of John Martin, a merchant, and of Eleanor (Wightman), a native also of that city. The father died when James was only three or four years old, leaving also a little daughter, Eleanor, now Mrs. McLennan of Monrovia. The lad was educated in the famous national schools of Belfast, and when fifteen years of age began to clerk in a local store.

Two years later the plucky mother with her two children set sail for America and California, and located at Los Osos, where she had a sister, Mrs. Gibson, who afterwards became Mrs. White. Here it may be remarked that two uncles of James, John and James Wightman, were pioneer merchants of San Francisco, John having come to the bustling town in 1849, and James following a couple of years later. His mother spent her last days with him, and died at his present home near Templeton, to which he had come in 1887, purchasing a ranch of nine hundred acres from the West Coast Land Company.

With characteristic energy and good judgment, Mr. Martin improved the land, making there, in fact, a veritable transformation; he broke the untilled ground, built a handsome residence, surrounded it with well-made fences, farmed to grain and hay, and introduced thoroughbred cattle, whose brand—JM, with a bar over the letters—came to be well known. After a while he sold three hundred acres, so that now he has six hundred acres, in part de-

and in wintering, while on the balance is raised the finest of Durham stock.

At the nearby county seat, James was married to Miss Sarah Strahl, a native of Idaho, who was reared and educated in her native state, and who became the mother of four children—Eleanor, Mary, James and John Kenneth. These, with their parents, are members of the Presbyterian Church at Templeton.

**OTTO WOLF.**—The subject whom this narrative sketches was born in San Francisco, hence all his ideas are typically western and he has imbibed that generous, liberal spirit so conspicuous in all Westerners. A son of Albert Wolf, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work, Otto Wolf was born on October 28, 1877, attended the public schools in San Francisco for a time and, after moving to San Luis Obispo County, went to the public school in Union district for eight or nine years, growing up on the home farm and learning the details so necessary for a successful career along those lines. He also learned blacksmithing in his father's shop on the ranch, working there and at farming together with his father until 1909, when he became owner of his present place of one hundred sixty acres, besides which he has one hundred sixty acres adjoining, all located on Dry creek, about ten miles east of Paso Robles.

These he has well improved and stocked with teams and implements for a grain raising enterprise on a large scale. He leased and operated 2,000 acres of the Sacramento ranch for three years, and ran 1,200 acres of the Estrella ranch for a time, besides operating his own land, using three ten-horse teams, while he owns a combined harvester. Mr. Wolf makes a specialty of breeding high grade Norman draft-horses, having a very fine herd, and has done much to improve horses throughout this part of the county, where he has been actively engaged in the horse business for many years.

The ranch is equipped with fine large barns and modern residence, and a wind mill and gasoline engine for supplying water for the house and barns, all suitable for conducting his business; and every improvement seen on the place has been placed there by its owner, who takes pride in its well-kept appearance. He also raises many hogs, finding that a very profitable enterprise. While his own interests require most of his time, Mr. Wolf never neglects the duties of a citizen, but co-operates with all movements that have for their aim and ultimate end the welfare of the people and the upbuilding of the county. Politically he is a Democrat.

**JOHN McCULLOCH.**—A resident of California since 1885 and of this county since 1892, John McCulloch has been identified with commercial interests of San Miguel and has become well known and influential. He was born in New York City, a son of John McCulloch, a Scotchman, who came to America and settled in New York, where he passed his last days.

Left an orphan when a child, John McCulloch was reared in Erie, Penn., where he attended public school while living on a farm and making himself generally useful. He remained in that vicinity until 1884; then, making up his mind that he would come West where he felt opportunities were much better than in the congested East, he first stopped at Hillsboro, Tex., a year, and in the fall of 1885 came on to California. At Salinas he found employ-

account in the Gavalon country. Selling out, Mr. McCulloch came to San Miguel and was employed in the cannery, then in a stable for a time, and then he was engaged in the butcher business under the firm name of Forbes and McCulloch. During the association with Mr. Forbes, Mr. McCulloch bought and butchered the stock used in the market, while his partner had charge of the retail department. After some time he sold his interest to engage in the liquor business, but after a short time in that field, he sold out.

Meantime Mr. McCulloch had bought a lot and building in the central part of the business district of the town, and leased it out for two years; and when his tenant's lease expired, he fitted out his present fine billiard parlor, to which he gives his attention. He conducts a very orderly and popular place, and as such it is well patronized, for its owner is well and favorably known throughout this part of the county, and has many friends. He is a successful business man and is self-made in every sense of the term. Starting in life with no guiding hand of father or mother, he has had to battle with the world on his own responsibility, and what he possesses has been made through his own endeavors.

**EDWARD JOSEPH WICKSTROM.**—As manager of the San Miguel Flouring Mill Co. at San Miguel, and one of the prominent citizens of the town, Ed. Wickstrom has made his influence felt for the good of his adopted home. He was born in Stromsburg, Neb., on May 15, 1880, the fifth oldest of ten children, and at the age of eight years he was brought to California. Here he was educated in the schools at Templeton, and from a lad rode after stock and helped his father with the farm work until he was twenty-one. Then he went to work on the Sacramento ranch, and in 1904 came to San Miguel and entered the employ of the Farmers Alliance Flour Mill, where he was apprenticed to learn the millers' trade. He continued with that mill until 1913, when he took charge and is now the miller and manager of the San Miguel Flouring Mill Co.

This is a full roller-process mill, with full-swing sifters and a capacity of one hundred barrels per day. The flour is made from local wheat, mostly of the blue-stem, and the "California's Best Flour" is the result. There is a barley mill with three tons capacity per hour, also a storage warehouse business which is very large. The flour is shipped to San Jose and intermediate local points.

Mr. Wickstrom was married August 19, 1908, in San Miguel, to Miss Nellie Houghton, a native of this county, and they have one child, Letha Edwina. Mrs. Wickstrom is the daughter of Fred Houghton and granddaughter of Samuel Houghton, who crossed the plains in 1852, settled in Oakland and engaged in the butcher business until 1873, when he came to San Miguel and took up the stock business. He died in Oakland. Her father, Fred Houghton, was born in Oakland, came to San Miguel in 1873, married here Anna Kitchen, of Monterey county, and engaged in the stock business. He still resides here and is interested in horses.

The father of Ed. Wickstrom, Andrew F. Wickstrom, by trade a blacksmith, was born in Sweden, came to Illinois, and then to Nebraska, where he farmed. In 1888 he bought a ranch in the Templeton section, farming four years. Then he homesteaded and engaged at his calling in Shandon, having about eight hundred acres, until he sold and located near San Miguel and raised grain. He later moved to Fresno, where he died in April, 1915, aged

seventy-seven. He married Sophia Linquist, and she resides in Fresno and was the mother of ten children, eight of whom are living.

Ed. Wickstrom was made a Mason in San Miguel Lodge No. 285, F. & A. M., and is junior warden. He is a member of Nacimiento Lodge No. 340, I. O. O. F., and is past grand, and with his wife is a member of the Rebekahs.

**CHARLES L. NYBERG.**—A man who is adding to the general beauty and natural wealth of the neighborhood is Charles L. Nyberg, a native of Vermland, Sweden, and the son of a carpenter and farmer who brought his family to Cokato, Wright county, Minn., where he plied his trade for seven or eight years. Charles came with his father and mother. His mother, before her marriage, was Elizabeth Peterson, of the same Swedish locality.

Six of the eight children are still living, and all are under the Stars and Stripes. Peter A. Nyberg is in Templeton as the manager of the grocery department of Charles Johnson; Oscar J. is a contractor and builder; Emily, now Mrs. Charles Uhte, is a resident of San Francisco; Richard is a carpenter in that city; while Fred H. is in Templeton.

Coming here in the late eighties, Charles Nyberg was educated in the Templeton public schools, and from a boy learned, under his father's instruction, the carpenter's trade, as well as agriculture. He soon bought a ranch of two hundred twenty-five acres in the Willow Creek district, six miles from Templeton, and having cleared and otherwise improved it, he put a hundred acres under the plow and set aside the balance for orchards and stock-raising. He went in for an apple orchard, for example, of ten or twelve acres, and thereon he set out all varieties.

Having sold this desirable property, he afterwards bought sixty acres a mile west of Templeton, a tract which he soon improved, building there barns and stables, and sowing the tillable ground to grain. He also had an orchard of six acres, together with rose and flower gardens, and when he is not busy keeping his property in good condition, he is engaged in contracting and building in Templeton and vicinity.

A Democrat and a member of the County Central Committee, Mr. Nyberg has also served as the Oakdale school district trustee, and being of a religious temperament he is a supporter of the church, choosing, as is perfectly natural, the Swedish Lutheran as his spiritual incentive.

**SHERMAN L. DOTY.**—Not everybody can make a success at mining, and the more that one knows about the problems associated with discovering and securing the vast treasures deep in the earth, the more must one be convinced that, notwithstanding the occasional accidental stroke of luck, the really successful miners are and ever will be those who have a natural insight into what lies beneath their feet or above them on the mountain sides, or in other words, those who from early years have shown a bent toward such adventurous work. Such a person to whom mining was always full of interest is Sherman L. Doty, who has followed prospecting and locating ever since he began it, and who has been, in the face of untold difficulties, reasonably successful. A native of whom San Luis Obispo County is proud, he was born on May 28, 1876, at Cambria, the son of Benjamin Doty, an early settler, successful farmer and dairyman there.

Reared on a farm and started in the great world through the guidance of the public schools, Sherman took to mining, at first swinging a pick in

the Cambria, the Hamilton and the Rigdon mines. In spare hours he found time to work on his own account, and while prospecting located a mine above the Cambria mine in the Pine mountain district.

On July 2, 1904, in Union county, Ore., he married Miss Lena Roberts, a native of that district, and a daughter of Lindsey and Carrie (Moore) Roberts, natives of Washington and Indiana, respectively. The father was a surveyor and later a local railroad agent; but he is now proprietor of a hotel at Myrtle Point, Oregon. Three children resulted from this union—Marjorie, Glenn and Kenneth.

After Mr. and Mrs. Doty's marriage the couple removed to San Luis Obispo County; and since coming to the Klau Mine, Mrs. Doty has had charge of the boarding-house there, giving the wants of her patrons her personal attention. In politics Mr. Doty is a Democrat; but his many Republican friends have never yet found a law interfering with their liking for him, and Sherman Doty, with his good wife, are well known and highly esteemed throughout the coast country.

**PROF. JOSEPH A. REMBUSCH.**—A leader in musical circles in the central coast counties, and a man of national reputation, Prof. Joseph A. Rembusch, of Santa Maria, was born in Batesville, Ind., July 27, 1869, his father, Peter Rembusch, coming from Metz, France, after having been a cuirassier and fought under Napoleon. He married Frances Snyder, native of Petersburg, and both Mr. and Mrs. Rembusch had French and German blood flowing through their veins. Peter Rembusch was a fine trombone and violin player, while his wife was a singer of note, who at times took leading roles in operatic performances. They came to America and settled in Indiana, and their nine children all had pronounced musical tastes and ability. Mrs. Rembusch died in 1883, and her husband passed away in 1898, aged eighty years.

Joseph A. Rembusch attended the public schools at Batesville and Shelbyville, Ind., and at a very early age showed signs of ability in music, joining local bands and orchestras. He was a student of the trombone, voice and harmony for years, and later took up instrumentation and orchestration. He studied under such masters as Cooney, Schelschmidt, and Ernestenaufe of Indianapolis; Madame Millspaugh, and Eilenberg of Montgomery, Ind.; voice under Prof. Curson of Indiana, and instrumentation under Walter Dahlby, of Des Moines, Ia. Mr. Rembusch was a director of the Indiana State Band, of sixty men, at Frankfort, Ind., for four years, after which, with a brother, he embarked in the music business at Zanesville, Ohio, where he also was director of the city band, and later had the leadership of the Military band of Montgomery, Ala. While residing in that city, he filled an engagement as trombone soloist in the Bijou theater of the Klaw & Erlanger circuit. He has played with the celebrated "Hi Henry Minstrels," and held other positions of importance.

As showing the esteem in which Mr. Rembusch was held in Zanesville, we quote the following from the Zanesville, Ohio, News, published when he moved to Montgomery, Ala.: "Since coming to Zanesville, about a year ago, Mr. Rembusch has won a host of friends. He has the happy faculty of weaving a close chain of friendship with everybody with whom he comes in contact. What Zanesville loses, a sterling citizen, will be Montgomery's gain. Always pleasant, dependable and of good nature, he is honest, truth-

and, and the rest is a man that it is always a pleasure to meet. He has played with many of the best bands in the country and was at one time conductor of the Elks band in Eureka, and at another time was 1st of the Indiana State Band. While in Zanesville, Mr. Rembusch gained an enviable reputation as a vocalist, holding the position of director in the St. Thomas' church choir. He was also a valuable member of the Weller Orchestra. No musical event was thought of in Zanesville without the name of Joseph A. Rembusch on the program. Mr. Rembusch is both an Eagle and an Elk, and these organizations sadly regret his leaving."

Professor Rembusch came to Santa Maria, in May, 1907, to take the leadership of the Santa Maria Band, and remained in that position until he resigned, April 1, 1914. During the intervening years the band, under his management, became known far and wide as the Santa Maria Concert Band, one of the best in the state. In 1907, when the White Squadron appeared in Santa Barbara, Professor Rembusch was there with his band and took first rank for musical interpretation. He organized and was conductor of the Santa Maria Concert Orchestra, his concert work entitling him to a high place among the musicians of the state. He is one of the proprietors of the Gaiety Theater of Santa Maria, and plays the trombone in the orchestra. He is also an expert piano tuner, and has written a pamphlet, full of valuable suggestions, on the care and use of the piano, the subject being treated mainly from the point of sanitation.

Professor Rembusch was united in marriage, in Santa Maria, December 3, 1912, with Miss Catherine Adam, daughter of William Adam, a pioneer merchant of Guadalupe, who carried on the first store at that place, before Santa Maria was founded. Professor and Mrs. Rembusch erected a beautiful residence, bungalow style, at the corner of Cook and McClellan streets, Santa Maria, in which city they both are social favorites. He is popular in fraternal circles, and is a member of the Knights of Columbus and B. P. O. Elks in San Luis Obispo, and the Moose and Eagles in Santa Maria.

**LOUIS WOLF.**—This native son of California has grown to manhood in San Luis Obispo County, in the northern section of which his interests are all centered. A son of Albert Wolf, of whom mention is elsewhere made in this work, Louis Wolf was born in San Francisco, on March 10, 1880, attended the public schools in the Union district, San Luis Obispo County, and graduated from the Paso Robles high school in 1895. From that time he assisted his father with the work on the home place until he was twenty-one years old, when he became possessor of one hundred sixty acres on which he built a home and began ranching for himself, renting adjoining land and engaging in grain and stock raising. He is now owner of a fine tract of three hundred twenty acres in Union district, ten miles east of Paso Robles, well improved, the part of it used for pasture well-studded with live oaks, making ample shade for his stock.

His specialty is Berkshire and Duroc hogs, of thoroughbred and registered stock. The sire of his herd of Berkshire hogs, Premier Champion, took a prize at the Fair in San Francisco in 1915. He has wells on his place with ample pumping plant to supply water to the dwelling and barns, also a small dairy with separator. His cattle are of the Hereford strain. Besides his 300-acre home place, he owns other land, and is operating four hundred eighty



acres. His ranch is located on Dry creek and he has a blacksmith shop thereon, doing his own work. He has a combined harvester for gathering his own crops, and does work with it for others in the locality.

Mr. Wolf was united in marriage in Plantation, Sonoma county, October 22, 1907, with Miss Anna Kase, born in that locality, a daughter of Herman and Louisa Kase, natives of Germany. Mr. Kase served in a cavalry regiment in the Franco-Prussian War, in 1870-71. Afterwards he traveled in foreign countries for some time. With his wife he migrated to the Hawaiian Islands, and thence to California, and was engaged in farming and lumbering near Plantation, Sonoma county. Now he resides at Petaluma. Of their nine children, Mrs. Wolf is the third youngest, and the mother of four children—Harry, Lois, Edward and Herman.

Mr. Wolf has traveled quite extensively over the state, investigating soil, climate and opportunities; and after comparisons, he decided that this county offered the greatest advantages for investment. He is an advocate of using the latest methods in farming, and encourages the meeting together of men who are making the earth yield the largest increase, to discuss and compare views and thus accomplish through practical experience the greatest results. He is intensely interested in and encourages the farmers to take advantage of the rural credits and farm loans. He has always been ready to give of his time and means towards any object that has for its aim the forwarding of any movement for the upbuilding of the county and enhancing the comfort of the people. He is a member of Union Farm Center of the San Luis Obispo County Farm Bureau, and a director of same, and is also a member of the appraising board of this district for the Federal Loan Association. Mr. Wolf is a Republican in politics, is liberal, enterprising and has the respect of all who know and have dealings with him.

**IVER IVERSEN.**—The lure of the New World is great to thousands beyond the seas, but never so powerful as in those instances where someone near and dear has preceded the dreamer to the land of promise, and beckons him or her to follow. How one brave young Dane, pushing out from his native land, paved the way for others to follow, we shall learn in the story of the Iversens, among whom was Iver, the son of Hans Iversen, who was born at Ballum, Denmark, on January 22, 1859, was brought up in the Danish schools, and came to Monmouth, Ill., on June 20, 1876, an experienced farmer. He was also a stranger in a strange land, for he was the first of a family to come to America.

For eighteen months he worked on a farm at ten dollars a month, and then he moved on to Omaha, where he was employed in a brick yard for three years. His next engagement was in Denver and vicinity, and there he entered the service of the Denver & Rio Grande Railroad, in the Gunnison country, where he worked on the top of Marshall Pass, at an altitude of 11,000 feet, until the construction was completed. Then he was back in a Denver brick-yard, and in the fall of 1880 came to San Francisco, where he busied himself in a restaurant and afterwards worked for the Claus Spreckels and the American sugar refineries. In 1882, he went to Butte, Mont., which was his headquarters till 1886, and while there he and four others contracted to build a ditch for the Anaconda Smelting Co. which occupied them for about one year. Some rough work in the forest to get out eight hundred or more cords of wood followed, thoroughly testing the stuff that was in the man;



for a little time had to be made down which the wood was shot a thousand feet to the valley below, where it was loaded on to wagons and drawn to the furnaces.

On July 26, 1886, Iver came to San Luis Obispo County and Paso Robles, where he was destined to join his father and other members of the family, and he bought his present place of one hundred sixty acres, raw and uninviting enough, but which under his skilful plowing and subsequent cultivating, became as good a ranch as any of its kind around there. He engaged in grain-raising, rented more land, and soon included a hundred sixty acres adjoining his farm and an equal amount of land across the road, making a ranch of four hundred eighty acres about eight miles east of Paso Robles. The raising of grain and wheat, on an extensive scale, has called for the most up-to-date means of harvesting the crops; but Iver has provided all this, although the last two years he has rented his ranch out to others. He also owns lots in Richmond and vicinity.

Iver Iversen was married in San Luis Obispo to Miss Marie Sophie Schmidt, who was born at Visby, Schleswig, a daughter of John Schmidt, the miller of Visby, who died in 1915, at the age of eighty-eight years. Their only child, Hayward J. Iversen, is attending Oakland Polytechnic school.

Mr. Iversen is a stockholder in the Farmers Alliance Business Association, being a member of the board of directors. He is also interested in the cause of education, and is serving as a member of the board of trustees of Union school district. He is a Democrat in political views and by religious preference a Lutheran, and altogether is one of the most progressive citizens of the community.

**JOHN SENNETH.** Had John Senneth been less favorably equipped, when he started out in life, with the element of grit and the determination to master the ups and downs that might beset him on his way, he could not enjoy today, as one of the oldest settlers in the vicinity of Cholame, the material prosperity he has so richly deserved, nor boast, in his modest way, what he has attained. A son of California, born in San Francisco on February 19, 1865, he was the son of John Senneth, a native of Waterford, Ireland, who came to California in the fifties, sailing around Cape Horn. In the northern metropolis John Senneth worked as a warehouseman; and there, when the subject of our sketch was eleven years old, he died. Mrs. Senneth, who preceded her husband to the spirit land two years before, had been Miss Margaret Mahoney, a native of Cork, Ireland, and eventually a resident of San Francisco.

Nine children were born of this union, but John Senneth is the only one at present living. He was brought up in old Sonoma, Sonoma Valley, where he lived with Fred Keller on a farm, and attended the public school; and he remained with Mr. Keller until he was twenty-one, when he pushed out into the world for himself.

It was in 1886, therefore, that he came to San Luis Obispo County and located a homestead of a hundred sixty acres in the Cholame valley, about seven miles east of Cholame. He cleared the land, made many improvements, dug a well fifty-six feet deep, and built a house, barns and fence; and there, with two horses and a plow, he turned the first furrow, putting in a crop for hay. He then went in for raising horses, rented lands adjoining, and began to farm more extensively. As many as five hundred acres a

year he has put out to grain and today he owns, among other property, a ranch of a hundred sixty acres at Parkfield, Monterey county, devoted to wheat, barley, horses and cattle. He has made a specialty of draft horses, and uses the brand known as the wish-bone.

On September 24, 1890, John Senneth was married at San Miguel to Miss Bridget Murphy, a native of Charleston, Prince Edward Island, and a daughter of Michael Murphy of the same place. He was a shipbuilder, working in the great shipping yard there, followed the sea as a seal fisher, and was later a farmer. Her mother had been Miss Catherine Fitzpatrick of St. John's, Newfoundland. She was married to Mr. Murphy while he was interested in the seal fisheries. Seven girls and three boys were born to Mr. and Mrs. Murphy, and Mrs. Senneth was the third youngest in the family. She came to California in 1876.

A citizen loyal to the standards of the Democratic party, and one who enjoys the confidence of his fellow-men, John Senneth was for twelve years an inspector of elections. In social circles he is best known as a member of the Cholame club.

**ALBERT ALLEN DUDLEY.**—A native son of California and one of the representative business men of Santa Maria, Albert A. Dudley was born at Petrolia, Humboldt county, November 8, 1880, a son of Jacob Allen and Ida Jane (Ellingwood) Dudley, natives of Iowa and California respectively. Jacob Allen Dudley was born in Mitchell county, Iowa, November 22, 1859, and when four years of age was brought to California by his parents, James Newton and Lucinda (Miner) Dudley. They settled in Marysville and a few years later moved to Petrolia, Humboldt county, where Mr. Dudley owned and operated a sawmill, and during the Indian troubles took part in subduing the Red Men. He met death by drowning in the Mattole river, April, 1885, while endeavoring to save his saw-logs from being carried out to sea; his widow died in Eureka in May, 1913, aged seventy-five years.

After the death of his father, Jacob Allen Dudley conducted the saw-mill, and operated a threshing machine in that section of the county until his death, August 1, 1905. He was public spirited, and served for years as deputy sheriff and constable of Mattole township. He was married in Ferndale, November 21, 1879, Ida Jane Ellingwood becoming his wife. She was born in Santa Cruz, January 5, 1862, a daughter of Giles Warren and Alice Jane Ellingwood. Mr. Ellingwood passed away in Oakland, March 10, 1905, aged seventy-six, and his widow died in Eureka, November 1, 1908, at the age of seventy-two. Mrs. Ida Jane Dudley later became the wife of J. M. Woodgate in Portland, Ore., and now resides in Boise, Ida.

Albert A. Dudley, eldest of a family of twelve children, eleven of whom are living, attended the public schools at Petrolia, Ferndale and Port Kenyon in Humboldt county, and on November 16, 1898, at the age of eighteen, began working in a furniture store in Ferndale. While in this position he assisted with the undertaking department, and having shown an aptitude for that work, he resolved to make it his profession. For one year, from September, 1900 to September, 1901, in partnership with a cousin, A. M. Cummings, Mr. Dudley engaged in the furniture business in Petrolia under the firm name of Dudley & Cummings. He later was employed by various furniture dealers and undertakers in Arcata and in Healdsburg.

On August 16, 1904, he came to Santa Maria from Arcata as a result of some correspondence with the firm of T. A. Jones & Son. He at once entered their employ and took charge of their undertaking department, besides doing upholstering, carpet laying and general work in the furniture store, which work is now being carried on by his brother, George Lewis Dudley, who has been with the firm since January, 1910. After coming here, Mr. Dudley took a correspondence course in embalming with the Cincinnati College of Embalming, graduating therefrom March 21, 1908. He remained with the firm until January 27, 1914, when he purchased the undertaking business, removing in March, 1915, into a commodious and up-to-date chapel erected for him by S. J. Jones, at 107 West Church street, according to plans proposed by Mr. Dudley. He has a combination auto-ambulance and hearse, as well as a touring car, his entire equipment being complete and modern in every detail.

At Windsor, California, June 21, 1903, occurred the marriage of Albert A. Dudley and Miss Eliza Ellen Hembree, daughter of Andrew Jackson and Mary (Goode) Hembree, natives of Oregon and England respectively. The grandfather, also named Andrew Jackson Hembree, met death in the Indian war in Oregon. To Mr. and Mrs. Dudley two children have been born: Russell Hembree, born at Arcata, April 9, 1904; and Verna Margaret, who was born May 17, 1911, in the home which he erected in the fall of 1909, at 413 South Lincoln street, of modern bungalow style of architecture, over which his wife presides with her usual gracious hospitality.

Mr. Dudley has taken a live interest in municipal affairs in Santa Maria, and is a member of the board of health. He is an active member of the Chamber of Commerce and of several lodges. He is a member of Santa Maria Lodge No. 90, K. of P., of which he was Chancellor Commander in 1911. He was Master of Hesperian Lodge No. 264, F. & A. M., in 1910; High Priest of Fidelity Chapter No. 96, R. A. M., 1915-16; and Worthy Patron of Mizpah Chapter No. 100, O. E. S., in 1913, of which Mrs. Dudley was Worthy matron in 1916. He was inspector of the Fiftieth Masonic District of California, 1911-12-13; and Chief Ranger, Court Sisquoc No. 9019, A. O. F., in 1908. Mr. Dudley has made a place for himself in the business and social circles of Santa Maria, where he and wife are social favorites. Both are attendants at the Santa Maria Christian Church.

**HANS IVERSEN.**—Not the least pleasing feature of the history of many a family among the pioneers of California is the interest attending the embarkation of the old folks from the Old World, wherein is seen the love and devotion of children who have paved the way for their parents to follow. Hans Iversen, the father of the Iversen family at Union, and one of the originators of the Farmers Alliance Business Association, was a fine old man, whose identification with California might never have come about had it not been for the progressive action of his children which led up to his own eventful adieu to his native land. Born at Mogeltondern, in Schleswig-Holstein, he became a miller, and after his marriage ran a bakery and drove cattle to the seaport. His wife was Hannah Thygesen, a daughter of Mathias Thygesen, a sailor who for many years coursed the waters of the globe.

In the centennial year of the United States, Iver, the oldest son, came out to Illinois, and two years later he was followed by the next eldest, Mat. In 1879, Chresten came direct to San Francisco, having had a desire from a lad to come to the Pacific Coast, and being the first of the family to reach

California. The year following still another son, Josiah, left Denmark, for San Francisco, and before the year was out Theodore had made for Omaha. This break in the family ranks so centered the interest of the father and mother in the New World that in 1882 they came with the rest of the children to the Golden State. They came to avail themselves of homesteads in San Luis Obispo County; and the father, Mat. and Chresten made their way across country to what is now Union, where they located their home places.

Hans Iversen set up shop on the property he had selected in 1883, plowing some of his land and beginning improvements on the homesteads for his two sons, sowing a wheat crop on each, which was harvested in 1884 by means of the scythe, the crop making a very respectable showing. For some time he lived upon his land, but while in San Francisco, under medical treatment, he died in December, 1911, at the age of about seventy-two, leaving his companion, who now makes her home in San Francisco. A Lutheran by profession of faith, he was of a deeply religious nature, and was a man of high moral courage. For years, no prettier sight was seen in the vicinity of Union than the festivities which celebrated the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Hans Iversen at their home there eight years ago.

Ten children have grown up from this happy marriage. Iver is a farmer at Union; Mat. likewise tills the soil there and is serving as a member of the county board of supervisors; Chresten A. is also a farmer at Union; Josiah resides in Sebastopol; Theodore is engaged in the hardware business at Richmond; Mary, now Mrs. Lausten, is proprietor of the Kaiser Hof Cafe; Hans, Jr., resides in San Francisco, and is in the taxi business; C. Frederick is proprietor of the Alexander Hotel, Paso Robles; Martin is proprietor of a restaurant in San Francisco; while Matilda, who had become Mrs. Hansen, died in San Francisco in July, 1916.

**JOHN GRANT.**—Whoever attempts a history of Annette and essays to present the lives of those citizens who have well earned their way to an enviable prominence, must early inscribe the record of John Grant, the successful sheep and cattle raiser who, by hard work and scrupulous attention to duty and obligations, accumulated a comfortable fortune for himself and family. Born near Glasgow, Scotland, in 1838, and educated in that country, he came, when a child, with his parents to the United States and Missouri, losing his father and mother, as well as three brothers and two sisters, through cholera soon after his arrival in the New World.

In 1849, he crossed the plains with an uncle and aunt, a Mr. and Mrs. Easton, driving an ox-team when only eleven years old. On reaching Salt Lake City, he remained for two years, and in 1851 pushed on to San Bernardino county, where he resided for some time. He worked for his uncle, and with him came to Los Angeles.

When he was eighteen, he got a horse and saddle and a dollar, and started for Gilroy, where he farmed, after a while reaching Redwood and stopping there three or four years. Then he went into the mines, along the Frazer river, and then to Boise City, where he engaged in packing freight into the mines. There he got a good financial start, and returning to California he bought some cattle, went into stock-raising, drove his herds to Visalia, and having sold them proceeded to Mount Diablo, where he again took to the mines. There he met the lady who became his wife.

The wedding ceremony was celebrated in San Bernardino on October 10, 1868, when John Grant and Miss Margaret Nish, a native of Salt Lake City, were joined in wedlock. Miss Nish had been born in November, 1852, the daughter of William Nish, a Scotch miner who had come to Salt Lake City, then to San Bernardino, and afterward to Mount Diablo, where, when acting as superintendent of the mines, he was killed in 1872. Her mother was Isabelle Henderson before her marriage, a native of Scotland, who died in San Bernardino. The eldest of five children still living in a family of nine, she was brought up in San Bernardino, to which town she had come with her parents by ox-teams in 1854, and was educated in the public schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Grant continued for two years at San Bernardino, farming and raising cattle, after which they engaged in the same occupation at Bakersfield until chills and fever led them to sell out, whereupon they returned to Gilroy, bought a herd of sheep, and ran a sheep ranch for a year in the Pecheco mountains. Later they came to Santa Maria and, in 1882, bought a ranch which they stocked with sheep, and operated for twelve years, the ranch comprising two hundred acres and located one mile from the state highway. On their leasing this, they located here, and made numerous improvements, which included their house and barns. Mr. Grant was thus in the sheep business until his death, constantly adding to the place until Grant ranch embraced over eight thousand acres devoted to sheep and cattle-raising. All of this is fenced in and well watered with springs, and the borders of Grant lake have become famous as pasture grounds for sheep. On November 8, 1914, Mr. Grant passed away, and since that date, his sons have assisted the esteemed widow to manage the farm.

Nine children were born to this union. Isabelle became Mrs. Holcomb of San Bernardino; Robert is a farmer at Pozo; John and Richard are also farmers; Viva, now Mrs. Anderson, farms here; Adam, who is engaged in farming and sheep-raising, and Fred are also local farmers; Jessie lives with her mother; and Archie is a farmer in partnership with Fred.

Mr. Grant was a member of the Hesperian Lodge of Masons at Santa Maria, a happy relationship having much to do, no doubt, with the association of Robert, Adam and Richard with the same order. Mrs. Grant, who for years proved a helpmeet of inestimable value, is a Republican and a Presbyterian, as was also her husband.

**EVAN BROWN.**—Prominent among the young ranchers of Shandon who, by their intelligent enterprise, are contributing much to the science of farming and stock-raising, while making material success, is Evan Brown, a son of Richard and Lucy (Collier) Brown, old-time and well-known citizens of San Luis Obispo County, who are very properly represented elsewhere in this work. Born on the Brown ranch near Shandon, February 10, 1886, Evan was educated at the public schools at the same time that, from a youth, he made himself generally useful on the ranch. He learned the care of the stock, and how to drive big teams; and he also was instructed, in the great school of actual experience, in the best way to prepare for a grain crop and eventually to harvest it.

After Evan had reached his majority, he farmed for a year with his father; and, in 1908, located a homestead, there being a vacant one adjoining his father's ranch on the south. He filled the requirements of the law and, in time, proved up on a hundred sixty acres, even breaking the first furrow;

but later he disposed of it and purchased his present ranch in Cholame valley, completing the arrangements in 1913. This ranch he has much improved, and now owns five hundred twenty acres in Cholame valley, his home being four miles above Shandon. He has built a comfortable new modern residence there, together with barns and other out-houses; and has fenced in the whole in a substantial manner. He also rents another ranch and operates, all in all, six hundred eighty acres, given to grain and stock. He uses a big team, and puts out about two hundred acres of grain a year.

On April 26, in 1912, Evan Brown was married in Los Angeles to Miss Sue Thornton, a native of South Dakota, who came of good old Scotch and English stock, and migrated to California with her parents, who were Charles and Vesta (Bell) Thornton, of New England ancestry, but born in Iowa and Minnesota respectively, and now making their home in Artesia, California. Mrs. Brown was graduated from the Los Angeles State Normal, in the class of 1907, and taught for a while in the Southern California schools, among them the Fullerton high school. She came to San Luis Obispo County, teaching at Cholame and later at Bethel, continuing there until her marriage to Mr. Brown. Two children—James Evan and Ernest Thornton—are the happy result of this union.

Evan Brown is public-spirited to a pronounced degree, and has found pleasure in contributing his services as school trustee of the Cholame district. In religious belief, Mr. Brown is an Episcopalian; and politically he is a Republican.

**JAMES M. GOULDING.**—One of the interesting men of Paso Robles, though still to be numbered among the youngest of its active business contingent, is the subject of this sketch.

After a most agreeable visit to his extensive almond orchards and choice tracts of land rapidly being converted to the same purpose, among the hills just west of the city of Paso Robles, one realizes how each experience of life adds to human equipment. The unusual chapters of J. M. Goulding's life each tell a story of development from small beginnings, success attained where the margin at the outset was narrow indeed. In his forty-second year Mr. Goulding brought to his extensive land holdings in Paso Robles the energy and far-sightedness which in a brief year transformed three hundred twenty acres of rough-wooded hills into smooth orchards, with automobile roads winding between, and contented owners planning their permanent homes upon their respective tracts.

Born in Rutland, Vermont, in 1874, and setting out on the long trail at the age of seventeen years, provided only with a public school education, Mr. Goulding soon became a valued employe in the vast organization of the Vermont Marble Co. For eleven years he worked industriously for this concern in the home office, and on the road as a salesman. During the last five years of that period, he was town clerk of Proctor, Vt., notary public, informal legal adviser and all that the honorable office of town clerk means to the populace of the old "down East" community.

Attracted to Arizona by reports of friends interested there, he regretfully transferred his allegiance from his mother state to the then crude territory, locating at the Grand Canyon, the wonder of all the world. Here he became interested in copper mining, and the expansion of a tourist hotel, investing in both these enterprises; and while devoting himself to these activ-

ties, he also found time for research until, at the age of thirty years, he was the most widely-informed man regarding the geology, geography, and phenomena of that marvelous region of any residing in it. He developed trails; and through his enthusiasm for the Canyon and Desert many travelers were afforded the opportunity of dipping into the heart of sections hitherto almost unknown.

After five years of this unique experience, the hotel property was sold to William Randolph Hearst, who had been a frequent patron. Mr. Goulding, having discovered his special aptitude for the hotel business, came from Arizona to California to accept a high position with Mr. Frank Miller, in his Mission Inn at Riverside. Here he remained three years, resigning to accept the assistant management of Paso Robles Hot Springs, where he caught his vision of the great future of Paso Robles' then unappreciated lands, and invested largely in the same, with a judgment since splendidly proven.

In 1913, Mr. Goulding purchased the Hotel Andrews at San Luis Obispo, operating it and greatly enlarging its patronage until, in 1916, his affairs at Paso Robles demanding all his time, he disposed of the hotel, and since then he has resided in the latter city.

A Republican in politics, a live member of the Chamber of Commerce, the secretary of the Republican County Central Committee, and secretary of Paso Robles Center of the County Farm Bureau, Mr. Goulding is a man of many friends. His home, presided over by his charming wife, is a rendezvous for active spirits of the swiftly-advancing capital of the Upper Salinas Valley, Paso Robles.

**WILLARD C. RANNEY.**—As operator in charge of the San Miguel station for the Midland Counties Public Service Corporation, Willard C. Ranney is a man of experience in this line of work. He was born near Flint, Genesee county, Mich., October 30, 1885. His father, Willard Ranney, was born in Pennsylvania and came with his parents to Genesee county, Mich., where he grew to maturity and farmed. He served in the Civil War in the Twenty-third Michigan Infantry, and married Elizabeth Davidson, who was born in Adrian, Mich. They are now living retired in Otisville. They had seven children, six of whom are still living.

The youngest of the family, Willard C. Ranney, was reared and educated in the grammar and high schools at Otisville, after which he started to learn the tailor's trade; but a year's work led him to decide that he did not like it, and he sought more profitable fields for his talents. He was an attendant in the Michigan State Asylum for the Insane for eighteen months, and then went home and ran the home-place two years. While on the farm there he was united in marriage with Myrtle Van Wormer. After his marriage he was employed in helping to erect the plant of the Buick Motor Company at Flint, being six months at work installing the machinery. In March, 1907, he came to California, and at Fresno was engaged in ranching until June, 1908.

Returning to Michigan, he entered the employ of the Buick Motor Company, and was in their factory until the spring of 1909, when he came back to this state and at Fresno entered the employ of the San Joaquin Light & Power Company, on construction work, building and installing machinery in the various places in the valley for over two years. The station at San Miguel was just started, and a well was being drilled. In 1912 Mr. Ranney

assisted in putting in the machinery, and after it was installed he was given charge of the plant, which supplies all stations north of San Luis Obispo. Since he has had charge here he has entered into active participation in public affairs, and is well and favorably known throughout this section.

Mr. Ranney has one child, a daughter, Hazel. He is a member of the Methodist Church in San Miguel, and in politics votes the Prohibition ticket and supports its principles at all times. He is a truly self-made man, and is highly respected by all who know him.

**FREDERICK NELSON.**—A successful farmer and business man, as well as one very much interested in the upbuilding of the educational system of the county, himself serving as school trustee in the San Marcos district, Frederick Nelson is a native of the Pacific Coast, having been born in Seattle, Wash., on September 4, 1880. His father, Andrew Nelson (a sketch of whom is given on another page of this work), was a native of Sweden.

Fred, as he is familiarly called by his many friends, was reared on the home place in this county from the age of eight years and was educated in the public schools. He early learned the various branches of agriculture with his father; and when he was twenty-one years of age and capable of striking out for himself, leased his father's ranch of three hundred twenty acres in the San Marcos district and, with his father, two hundred thirty-four acres adjoining. In 1908 he sold his interest in the land to his father, and leased the whole of five hundred sixty acres, five miles from Paso Robles; and there he puts in about two hundred acres to grain and raises cattle on the balance of the land. He is interested in a combined harvester, and uses two big teams to operate the ranch, and is succeeding nicely.

In 1916 he took in his twin brother, Ernest, as a partner, and they continue the business with success. His brother was in the barber business about ten years and was city trustee of Paso Robles one term. They are interested with other members of the family in the estate left by the father, and twenty-three acres are now in almonds and more is being set to that nut. Mr. Nelson is very active in giving the proper publicity to the county, and is a "booster" for all enterprises of merit.

In September, 1909, in Salinas, occurred the marriage of Frederick Nelson with Miss Althea Irene Gerst, a native of Oak Flat, and a daughter of Michael Gerst, a prominent citizen and pioneer of 1875 (whose interesting sketch is included in this work); and they have one son, Francis Frederick.

**CLEMEN FREDLEFF IVERSEN.**—The town of Paso Robles, with its varied and unequalled natural resources and business opportunities, has drawn within its confines many men whose capacity and fine traits of character would be a credit to any community, and men who have brought with them as wives or families others who have added materially to the real wealth of the community. Foremost among such valued citizens are Clemen Fredleff Iversen, the well-known farmer and horticulturist, and his cultured and refined helpmate, who is also well known for her contributions to the city's progress. On May 16th of our centennial year, Clemen Iversen was born at Ballum, Germany, the son of Hans Iversen, the substantial burgher, whose life is presented elsewhere in this work; and when he was but six years old he came with his parents to San Francisco. The next year his father homesteaded in San Luis Obispo County, and there the lad obtained his education under somewhat discouraging difficulties. For two years it was necessary



for him to walk five miles in order to reach the school at Dry Creek, and that was when there were no roads and the oft bare-footed boy made his way by trails; and only when a school was established at Union was the ambitious lad able to get his instruction nearer home. When he was eight years of age, an aunt, Mrs. I. C. Nielsen, came from San Francisco and located on a homestead adjoining that of his father; and then Clemen went to live with her. Already a sturdy chap, he helped to make the adobe brick for his father's house. When he was thirteen, Clemen quit school in order to manage his aunt's place, and in 1902 he entered the employ of the United States Government as a mail contractor, for four years driving a stage between Paso Robles and Cholame, a distance of thirty miles. Then, or somewhat later, he lived in the former town, near which he had bought a small ranch. In course of time he and his brother, Martin, at the expense of a contract, bought the leasehold of the Alexander Hotel, at the corner of Twelfth and Pine streets, Paso Robles, and managed it a year, after which Clemen bought his brother out and continued the business. The opening of the hotel took place on October 10, 1906. Meanwhile, he was improving and clearing his town ranch, and in 1911 he set out four and a half acres of almonds upon it. On June 13, 1901, Clemen was married at Union to Miss Eva Carpenter, who was born at Matfield Green, Chase county, Kansas, the daughter of C. E. and Frances (Handy) Carpenter, both natives of New York, who were married in Wisconsin. Her grandfather, Chauncey Carpenter, a farmer, who died in Wisconsin, was born in New York, of an English family that had settled in Virginia in Colonial days, and he married Sarah Van Atter, of good old Holland Dutch stock. Her maternal grandfather, Andrew Handy, was born in Scotland and settled, while a young man, in New York. In the rush for gold, he came to San Francisco by way of Cape Horn, and when he had abandoned the mines he returned east across the Isthmus of Panama. There he took the yellow fever and died a week after his arrival home. He had been married to Frances Pickering, whose great-grandfather, Timothy Pickering, was a Colonel in the Continental Army, and later Adjutant-General. Timothy Pickering was a member of Washington's Cabinet during both administrations. He was also the first Postmaster-General of the United States, and afterwards Secretary of State, and was one of the founders of the U. S. Military Academy at West Point. Her mother was a Champlaine and a descendant of the French explorers. The other children in the Carpenter family are: Mrs. Addie Woods and Mrs. George Bryan, of Paso Robles; Mr. De Wayne Carpenter, in Bandon, Oregon; Mrs. Lorena Underwood, of Chase county, Kansas; Mrs. Mina Dowell, who died at Arroyo Grande in 1905; Nellie, who died in Arroyo Grande, aged seventeen; Mrs. Edith Laughlin, of Santa Maria; and Mrs. Cliffie Phoenix, of Santa Barbara. Mrs. Iversen was educated in Kansas and at Arroyo Grande; and having pursued a high school course and specialized in English, she taught school for six years in this county. Three children—Dorothy Frances, Weononah Theresa and Clifton Fredleff—make up the young folks of Mr. and Mrs. Iversen's family, in which also Mrs. Nielsen resides. In 1914 Mr. Iversen set out twenty acres of almonds on Mrs. Nielsen's property, and in 1915 he and his brother, C. A., and his nephew, A. H. Iversen, bought a hundred sixty acres adjoining Mrs. Nielsen's property and planted twenty-six acres to almonds, as a demonstration of the value of land in that neighborhood for almond

culture viewed from a commercial standpoint. Since July, 1915, Clemen Iversen has put in his time as foreman in the Warehouse of the Farmers Alliance Business Association, in which he is a stockholder. Mr. Iversen is a member of Santa Lucia Lodge, 350, I. O. O. F., and active in the Encampment. He is a Socialist and serves on the county central committee. Mrs. Iversen is a woman of much culture and refinement, is well read and keeps abreast of the times, and being of a literary turn has contributed liberally to the press of the state.

**LOUIS LAURIDSEN.**—One of the highly respected men of the section about Union, San Luis Obispo County, is Louis Lauridsen, a director of the Farmers Alliance Business Association and an active man of affairs in his section of the county. He was born in Hygum, Schleswig, Germany, April 6, 1869, a son of Mads and Esther Maria (Hansen) Lauridsen, who were natives of that country and farmers by occupation, the former still living on the home place, which is owned by a son, Hans Lauridsen. The mother passed her last days there.

The eldest of the two sons, Louis Lauridsen was reared on the farm and attended the common schools until he was fifteen, after which he farmed until he was twenty-one years old. Then, in 1890, he came to the United States and on to San Francisco, where he had some relatives living. He soon found employment in the livery business with a stable on Washington street and worked there for seven years, although at times he left his position and went to Solano county, where he worked about three seasons driving big teams on grain ranches near Rio Vista. In 1898 he came to this county to work for Niels Madsen, whom he had met in San Francisco; and he was in his employ on his ranch for two years. At length, taking his savings, he bought an outfit and engaged in ranching for himself, with a cousin, Michael Lund, for a partner. They purchased three hundred twenty acres of land on the edge of the Estrella ranch and leased part of the Estrella ranch, farming one thousand acres to wheat; and this partnership continued for eight years. During the intervening time they had got together a fine outfit of modern implements and had two big teams, with other requisites for a successful farming enterprise. They dissolved partnership, as farmers, although they still own the three hundred twenty acres together.

Mr. Lauridsen carried on the farm alone, and also ran about seven hundred acres of leased land. He had three teams and raised wheat on a large scale for three years; then he purchased a three hundred twenty acre ranch on Dry creek, and one hundred sixty acres about one mile southeast of Union, living on the Dry creek ranch and farming eight hundred acres to grain until the fall of 1912, when he leased his ranches, and in May, 1913, with his wife and three children, made a trip to Denmark. He went to visit his old home and relatives, and remained about five months. Going, he took the steamer "United States" to Copenhagen via Christiania, and returned by the same route on the steamer "Hellige Olaf" to New York, and thence to his home in California. Now he leases most of his ranches, residing on the one near Union. He made another purchase in 1913 of one hundred sixty acres, also on Dry creek, located between his other two parcels of land, and so has an entire section in one body, as well as a half interest with his cousin in the original ranch. He resides on one hundred acres he reserves for himself, and has a small dairy.

Mr. Lauridsen was united in marriage in San Francisco on September

18,400,000 Mr. Naren Jensen, also born in Schleswig, Denmark, and a daughter of Soren Jensen, a farmer and veteran of the Prussian-Danish War of 1848. Mrs. Lauridsen came to California in 1888, and made her home in Fresno and San Francisco until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Lauridsen have three children—Esther, Ingward and Margaretha. He is serving as a member of the board of trustees of the Union school district, and is a director in the Farmers Alliance Business Association. He is also a member of the Lutheran Church and of Dania Lodge, No. 2, in San Francisco. He is a very successful, public-spirited and enterprising citizen, and a self-made man in every sense of the term.

**ALBERTO DELEISSEGUES.**—A native son who has reason to be proud of his ancestry, Alberto Deleissegues was born in Monterey in 1847, the son of Captain Oliver, a native of France, a seafaring man who rose to be captain of a vessel, sailing around Cape Horn several years before the gold excitement in California. He was shipwrecked in the Bay of Monterey and saved his life by swimming ashore. He settled at Monterey, where he fell in love with and married Señorita Concepcion Boronda, a member of a fine old Spanish family that had assisted in the settling of Monterey. Captain Deleissegue was a merchant and also became the owner of a large ranch at Chorro, San Luis Obispo County. He died some years afterwards, leaving five children. Later, at San Juan, his widow was married to J. Munoz, a native of Mexico, and to them four children were born. After her marriage to Mr. Munoz, she moved to her ranch in San Luis Obispo County, where Alberto was reared and educated in the public schools, finishing at Santa Clara College. He served as collector of customs of the Port of San Luis Obispo, and after that, in partnership with his brother Alexander, engaged in stock raising in Kern county.

In San Luis Obispo occurred the marriage of Alberto Deleissegues to Rebecca Hames, who was born in Oakland, the daughter of Benjamin and Carmen (Laing) Haines. The father, born in New York, was a prominent civil engineer and fine mathematician. The mother was of South American birth, having been born in Chile. Mr. and Mrs. Hames came to California as "Forty-niners," moving from Oakland to Santa Cruz, where he died; later the mother passed away in San Luis Obispo. Grandfather Captain George Foster Laing was a native of England, a ship builder and master mariner. On one of his trips he was married in Chile to Francisca Joffree and returned East, afterwards coming to California in 1850. After his marriage, Alberto served as deputy county assessor of San Luis Obispo, and later, with his brothers, he engaged in the cattle and butcher business for many years, until he sold out and located at Nipomo, where he now resides. They have nine children living: Oliver, with the Western Union Oil Co.; Eleanor, Mrs. Brown of Nipomo; Benjamin, farming near Orby; Winton, with the Union Oil Co.; Lucretia, Mrs. Joseph Dana of Nipomo; Albert, also of Nipomo; Rebecca, Mrs. Donovan, residing in Arizona; George, with the Pinal Oil Co.; and Francis, who is in the employ of the Pinal Dome Oil Co.

Oliver, who attended school at San Luis Obispo and at Nipomo, was one of a family of twelve children, nine of whom grew to maturity. First, he farmed and then he clerked; and later he applied himself to various kinds of profitable work. In 1910, he married Miss Lizzie Hammer, who was born at Los Alamos, the daughter of H. D. and Albertina (Schrempp) Hammer,

natives of Germany, who settled in Santa Barbara county. One child, Glen Richard, came to brighten the home of Oliver Deleissegues and his wife. Mr. Deleissegues is now in the employ of the Western Union Oil Co., and he is also engaged in farming in Los Alamos valley.

**AUGUST LOOSE, JR.**—The state of California is a state of great, undeveloped resources and a place where young and energetic men find an opportunity to show their resourcefulness. This native Californian, August Loose, Jr., was born in Cuffeys Cove, Mendocino county, February 4, 1882, a son of August Loose, a native of Germany, who came to California and located in Mendocino county, where he made and shipped railroad ties from Cuffeys Cove until 1886, when he located with his family in San Luis Obispo County. He bought a ranch on San Marcos creek and engaged in horticulture for a short time; but later he followed grain raising with profit. He soon bought adjoining land and owned six hundred forty acres, which he farmed until he sold it a few years ago to retire to Paso Robles to live. He was married to Louise Hess, a native of Germany, but who had come to America and located in Mendocino county. She had already been married to Charles Blechen, who died in Mendocino county. There were three children by her first marriage and two by her union with Mr. Loose.

Reared from the age of four in this county and sent to the public schools of San Marcos, young August remained at home assisting his father until he was of age, when, with his half-brother George Blechen, he rented six hundred forty acres of land and began raising grain and horses, prospering from the start. They leased land adjoining and farmed 1,120 acres, having two eight-horse teams and a header and thresher, and later added a combined harvester and continued operations until 1910, when he and his brother bought three hundred twenty acres adjoining the old home. In 1912, he quit ranching, leased the land to his brother and started a draying business in San Miguel; but two years later he sold this and started a garage, with the Studebaker agency, which he continued until 1916, when he sold out.

Mr. Loose was married in San Marcos in 1908, to Miss Elsie Cushing, who was born near San Simeon, the daughter of B. M. and Martha (Gillespie) Cushing and granddaughter of Wm. Moore and Caroline (Leffingwell) Gillespie, pioneers of the Cambria section, represented elsewhere in this work. Mrs. Loose is a graduate of the San Jose State Normal, class of February, 1902, and was actively engaged in educational work until her marriage. They have one child, Ira Ivan. Mr. Loose is a member of San Miguel Parlor No. 150, N. S. G. W.; was made a Mason in San Miguel Lodge No. 285, and is still a member; is a member of Nacimiento Lodge No. 340, I. O. O. F., and past grand; and both he and Mrs. Loose are members of Violet Chapter No. 102, Order Eastern Star, of which he is past patron, while Mrs. Loose is a worthy matron (1916). They are Republicans and have a host of friends throughout this section of the county.

**JACOB R. DOTY.**—In the days when the facilities for dairying were not as modern as they are today, and other farming was carried on mainly by hard work and long hours, Jacob Doty was growing to manhood in this county on a ranch owned by his father, who had settled in the Cambria section in 1871. Born in Sacramento county, Jacob Doty is a native son of the state; and as such he has shown his interest in the development of its resources for many years. His father was Benjamin F. Doty, a native of

Indiana, where he farmed until 1858, when he crossed the plains with ox-teams and prairie schooner and settled in Sacramento county. There, still farming successfully, he continued until 1871, when he located in San Luis Obispo County and engaged in farming and the stock business near Cambria, also running a dairy. He succeeded and accumulated one thousand acres of fine land, which was well improved by him and which occupied his attention until he retired to San Luis Obispo, where he died in 1915. His wife was Nancy Carroll, a native of Iowa, and she had eight children, all living.

Born in 1865, the fourth child in the parental family, Jacob Doty was a lad of about five years when his father brought him to this county. He was reared on the home place and went to the public schools at Cambria. From a boy he was interested in the dairy business, and when he was twenty-one years old he pre-empted one hundred sixty acres, which he improved for a dairy. He leased other lands, which he stocked with from seventy-five to one hundred thirty cows, operating eight hundred acres. In those days much of the work was done by hand; the ranch folk panned the milk, skimmed it by hand and churned by horse-power; and after the butter was made into rolls or squares, it was shipped to San Francisco markets. Finally a separator was put in and the cream was sent to the creamery.

Mr. Doty bought and sold several ranches, and made money in trading. In 1910 he sold out and located in San Luis Obispo, where he intended to retire, as he had won a competence; but in 1916 he leased the Kalar dairy and again started in with fifty to one hundred cows, and the modern methods for caring for the cream. He has large alfalfa fields that have attained a fine growth. He is also interested in mining in the Pine Mountain district in this county. He served as school trustee five years, and in politics is a Democrat.

Mr. Doty married, in San Miguel, Hattie Tucker, born in Missouri, a daughter of Douglas Tucker, whose sketch is given elsewhere in this work. Three children have been born to this union: Stella; Mildred, Mrs. Earl Davis of San Luis Obispo; and Noel. All have been reared and educated in this section of the county.

**WILLIAM H. RUDE.**—Among the hardy and venturesome Argonauts who crossed the plains when thousands were drawn to California in the early days of the mining excitement, was a man named Thomas G. Rude, a native of Kentucky, but a resident of Illinois for some years prior to coming to this state. He was the grandfather of William H. Rude, who was born in the Rincon valley, near Santa Rosa, Sonoma county, May 12, 1877, and the father of William L. Rude, who was born in Knoxville, Ill., and crossed the plains in 1852, when the pioneer of the family brought his family to California to make a home and fortune. (For a more complete story of the Rude family the reader is referred to the sketch of A. N. Rude, which appears on another page of this work.) In 1878, W. L. Rude settled in San Luis Obispo County, farmed on Estrella plains, then engaged for some time in raising stock on Bitterwater, and is now conducting a feed yard in Paso Robles. He married Veronica Baum, a native of Oregon; she resides in Maricopa, Kern county, with her daughter Jessie, Mrs. Lima of that place.

The youngest of the two children born to his parents, William H. Rude was educated in the schools of this county. Reared on the old Thomas Rude place, he learned the details of farming, so that when he began with his uncle he was capable of taking his share of the work and responsibility;

and they farmed together for many years and met with success. When they dissolved partnership, W. H. Rude rented his uncle's place and adjoining property and now carries on wheat raising with success and on a large scale. He prefers the blue-stem variety as the most hardy. He has had to make his own way in the world of business, and has won a place in the esteem of the citizens that have known him all his life, as well as those of later arrival in the section.

Mr. Rude was united in marriage in May, 1898, in Smartsville, Yuba county, with Miss Mary Murphy, who was born there, a daughter of Morris and Catherine (Havey) Murphy, pioneer miners of that section. The former died in March, 1915, and the latter in May, 1898. Mrs. Rude is the oldest daughter of the family of nine children. To Mr. and Mrs. Rude one daughter has been born, Madalene. Both Mr. Rude and his wife are members of the Foresters and are Democrats in politics. They have a wide circle of friends throughout the county who esteem them for their whole-heartedness and strict integrity.

**ABDON T. ONTIVEROS.**—A representative of one of the proudest Spanish and Mexican families in California, Abdon T. Ontiveros is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jose D. Ontiveros, and grandson of Don Pacifico Ontiveros, who joined the Spanish soldiery in the effort to subdue the Indians in Southern California and to protect the Spanish interests as well. He later became identified with Santa Barbara county by purchasing the Tepesquet ranch of nine thousand acres, upon which he lived until his death at the age of ninety-five years. The family are descended from the old General Patricio Ontiveros, a native of Spain and a man of high military rank.

Abdon T. Ontiveros was born on his father's home ranch December 29, 1882, attended the public schools of the Santa Maria valley and early learned the lessons of thrift and obedience, as well as habits of industry and the various branches of farming. He remained at home assisting his father until the latter's death in 1905, at which time he inherited the ranch now occupied by himself and wife, and has been enabled to win a name and place for himself by his own industry and perseverance.

In 1915 Mr. Ontiveros was united in marriage with Mrs. Grace Ontiveros, widow of his cousin, Sinecio L. Ontiveros, who met death in an automobile accident in 1914. Abdon Ontiveros erected a cement bungalow on his property, and laid out beautiful grounds with fine lawn, trees and iron fence—the whole overlooking the Santa Maria, Sisquoc and Tepesquet valleys. Here he and his wife live in comfort. They have a host of friends and are popular socially throughout the valley.

**A. A. HOWARD.**—The whole world knows the fame of Elgin, Ill., as the home of a mechanical triumph in the highest degree creditable to American ingenuity and science, but not everyone has heard of Elgin, Ia., where, on November 29, 1868, a boy was born destined to prove a mechanical genius and one who, migrating farther west, should take a most active part in developing the great state of California. His father was Elias G. Howard, and his mother was Esther Ann Bartholomew, of the English branch of the family. When a lad of sixteen, Mr. Howard began to make a living and to help support his mother; and in order to do this he worked in a lime kiln. Next he labored in the Elgin Canning Factory, helping to put up corn, tomatoes and pumpkins, and there his aptness and desire to learn brought him forward

so that, having been made machinist to the factory, he helped install the community's new machinery.

In 1891 Mr. Howard came to California, and went to work for Ellis H. Nicholson, who was in charge of the Sney Ranch. He developed exceptional capability, was more than patient and willing, and took the lead in fixing up the great harvesters and other machinery there, soon being rewarded with an appointment as blacksmith to Nicholson's ranch. In fact, his reputation as a mechanic who could do most difficult work traveled fast and far, and he was soon compelled to turn from his shop much that was brought to him.

In 1890, Mr. Howard married Miss Vena Jack, and two years later he sent for his parents, both of whom now live at Santa Maria. Together with his father he then rented a part of the Nicholson ranch, and there for eight years the Howards raised beans. This new industry led young Howard to apply his mechanical genius in an effort to solve a problem very bothersome to bean growers, the result of which was that he built a first-class bean thresher with which he threshed all the beans raised upon his ranch.

His next move was to Santa Maria, where he became a partner in the Howard & Wear Blacksmith Co., and ran a good-sized shop on West Main street for two years. This was followed by a partnership as machinist in Oakley & Howard, a firm that rented the Roemer & Roemer shop and took advantage of the oil boom just starting at Santa Maria, selling out only at the end of two very prosperous years. An engagement as chief machinist for J. F. Goodwin on the Pinal lease followed, when Mr. Howard repaired the huge boiler and dressed the tools for Well No. 2 and Well No. 7; and while filling that position he conceived the idea of providing a complete machine shop for the lease. About this time he made the first bean cutter of the style now being used in California; and perhaps because he did not patent it, it has turned out that the most successful bean cutters used today are made after his design. The truth is that, being a born mechanic and a man of great originality, Mr. Howard has patented a number of inventions, including an automatic ratchet for drilling cables, and this invention in particular bids fair to prove very valuable.

Mr. Howard owns his residence in Santa Maria, at 620 South Broadway, and there among steadfast friends, he resides with his wife and family, giving such of his spare time as he can afford to club life for activities under the auspices of the Knights of Pythias. Six children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Howard, and four—Charles S., Albert, Andrew, and Laura—are at home. George, a young man of eighteen and of great promise as a developing machinist, died of diphtheria; and Esther, an equally lovable child, died of the same dread disease when only twelve years of age. Despite these griefs, more than the average share of blessings has been accorded this highly intelligent and hard-working man and his devoted wife, both of whom, therefore, face the future with more than ordinary hopefulness.

**MARION BELL RICE.**—How efficiently a single citizen may serve the community in which he lives is shown by the career of Marion Bell Rice, for eight years past the obliging clerk of the Pleasant Valley school district (situated some three miles to the southeast of Santa Maria in the most flourishing part of the same valley), where he was born on February 2, 1886. His grandfather was J. H. Rice, the pioneer, and his father was William H. Rice, who, by occupying all the advantages of boyhood in such a

avored part of the world, Mr. Rice attended the grammar and high schools and graduated with the Class of 1906.

Two years later, he married Miss Clara Stringfield, and the result of that union was three children—Florence E., Marion L. and Lyndall Barnett. Since leaving school, he has engaged in ranching, and now cultivates, with exceptional skill, one hundred forty-eight acres of land.

As a Democrat and an active member of the Presbyterian Church, he performs his civic and religious duties in an exemplary manner; while as an Elk, in affiliation with the well-organized lodge at San Luis Obispo, and a member of the Knights of Pythias, at Santa Maria, he proves his congeniality as a hail-fellow well met.

As everyone who is familiar with Santa Maria's history knows, the school district above referred to was settled by the sturdiest of pioneers, the Bradleys, Tunnells and Rices being among those who either have become wealthy or prospered most; and it is only natural that we should find Henry Tunnell, Fred Bradley and Marion Bell Rice constituting the present board of school trustees, who are responsible for the excellent condition of the Pleasant Valley school.

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN EAMES.**—A native son who carries his honors modestly but well is Abraham Lincoln Eames, the owner of a rich grain and stock ranch near Orcutt, and a member of the old Yankee family in which Emma Eames, the celebrated prima donna, is a most distinguished representative. One of five children, Mr. Eames was born in Plumas county, Cal., on January 22, 1865. His father, born in the State of Maine, was Jonathan Whitman Eames (named after Whitman of the Mayflower), and his mother, also born in Maine, and married in Boston, was Angeline (Thompson) Eames. About 1849 the father came to California by way of the Horn, then returned for his family and afterward mined in Plumas county.

When Abraham Eames was two years old, the elder Eames moved to Santa Barbara to homestead a hundred sixty acres of land, and this he proved up, living upon it for some time and dying at the ripe age of seventy-five years, his wife preceding him, at the age of fifty, into the spirit land. Abraham thus passed his boyhood on a farm in Santa Barbara county, and it was not until 1886, when he went to Los Angeles, that he saw much of the outside world. In the southern metropolis he engaged in teaming and in street grading, and while there stretched the cable line for the first cable cars used in Los Angeles and operated from the Plaza to Union avenue. An offer from Porter Ashe next took him to Merced county, where he remained a year, cleaning up his first surplus thousand dollars, which he invested as an initial payment on the ranch he bought in 1891, and which he at present owns.

There he lived as a bachelor until he married Miss Emma Brookshire, daughter of Thomas J. Brookshire, who died two years ago at the age of seventy-three, leaving a wife now residing in Santa Maria. As a result of this marriage, six children were born—Hazel, Roscoe, Ellery, Delores, Esther and Byron—and these young folks brighten the life of the home ranch of a hundred twenty acres, a mile and a half east of Orcutt and seven miles southeast of Santa Maria. Mrs. Eames' father owned some two hundred acres of land, now leased by the Brookshire Oil Co., a partnership made up of two brothers and two sisters; and in addition to his interest in these oil lands,



Mr. Eames owns about forty acres on the Mesa in the oil belt. On all of these properties he has for years been making expensive improvements, while his intelligence and industry have provided him with a fine country home surrounded by a grove of beautiful shade trees, all grown from the seed.

Mr. Eames has long been interested in education and in similar things designed to upbuild and uplift, and this has led him to serve for ten years or more in the responsible capacity of clerk of the Pine Grove school district. He is a member of Hesperian Lodge, F. & A. M.

**ARTHUR E. COX.**—Men possessing the sterling characteristics to which Mr. A. E. Cox is heir have again and again proven bulwarks of their communities, nor have these traits and accomplishments often failed of recognition at the hands of their discerning fellow citizens. Mr. Cox's father was Alvin W. Cox, the Santa Maria valley rancher and pioneer of 1871, who held office very creditably for several years, first as supervisor and then as postmaster at Santa Maria, dying in June, 1915, in the seventy-third year of his age. He was a native of Ohio and migrated, a young man, to southwestern Missouri, where he married Miss Mary A. Powers, a daughter of that State. His mother, Anna Shang, had already come to California and the Santa Maria valley, and thither the young couple followed. A. M. Cox, a brother, resides at Calistoga, and C. B. Cox, another brother, is pre-empting choice land in the Cuyama.

Arthur Cox received a grammar school education, and after that was reared on a farm; the same farm, in fact, which had belonged to his grandmother, and was then purchased by his father, and upon which he now lives, after having acquired and greatly improved it. Mr. Cox's life, therefore, for the most part has been that of a practical and far-sighted rancher, although for some years he worked in the Pacific Coast railway office at Santa Maria, and for three years, at another time, he was assistant postmaster. It is as a farmer and bean raiser, however, that he has been phenomenally successful.

In 1894, Mr. Cox married Miss Edna Denise, and by her he has had four children—Orville, Zetta, Roswell and Sherwood. Mrs. Cox is a daughter of Charles and Caroline (Fine) Denise, a lineal descendant of the pioneer Fine who came to California from Missouri in 1846, along with ex-Governor Lilburn W. Boggs, who headed a great ox-team train, thus coming to know Governor Vallejo and the early settlements of the Bear Flag party. Very ably Mrs. Cox assists her husband in the management of his ranch, and in the working of other farm lands than those which he himself owns.

Fraternally he belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the Moose and the Modern Woodmen of America, and politically supports Republican principles.

**ED STULL.**—A pioneer driller of oil wells in the Santa Maria oil fields before the town of Orcutt was laid out, and at present engaged in contract drilling for the New Pennsylvania Oil Co. under the firm name of McKee & Stull. Ed Stull has become justly popular with the oil men of the community, and his experience in many fields has given him a wide and varied knowledge of the oil "game." He was born in Crawford county, Pennsylvania, April 24, 1865, a son of J. B. and Jamima (Shorts) Stull. The father was a pioneer oil man of Warren county, that state, and at one time was wealthy; but like many others in the business, he lost his money, and after his death the family moved onto a farm which Ed Stull managed until he was twenty-four.

Since then he has been engaged constantly in some line of oil production, chiefly as a driller. His first work was in the Rollerville and Gibbonsburg, Ohio, fields, working as a roustabout; he applied himself diligently to every task set for him to do, and after three years became a driller. In 1898 Mr. Stull came to California and worked for Dr. Book of Los Angeles as a driller in the Los Angeles fields. He then spent two years in the Spindle Top fields in Texas, drilling with both rotary and cable tools. From there he went to Tampico, Mexico, to work for the Doheny interests for nine months; and returning to California, he located in Coalinga and worked for the Standard, Union, Otai and other companies until coming again to the Santa Maria fields, where for three years he drilled wells for the Rice Ranch Oil Co.

While in Texas, Mr. Stull became acquainted with Burt Burnett and through him met the Hon. T. R. Finley and other leading men of the New Pennsylvania and Rice Ranch leases; and by all who know him, he is regarded as a very successful man, thoroughly competent in every branch of the oil well business, careful and considerate of those under him, and enjoying the confidence of those higher in authority.

Mr. Stull has been twice married, but both wives are deceased. By his union with Miss Mary George he had four children, Frank and Jessie, who live in California, and David and Lizzie, who reside in Pennsylvania. His second marriage, in California, united him with Miss Emma Camp.

Mr. Stull is a Republican in politics and fraternally belongs to the Santa Maria lodge of Moose. He is a straightforward, undemonstrative, wholehearted man, with a heart full of kindness for those less fortunate than himself; and his greatest pleasure is in the companionship of his children and grandchildren.

**JACOB B. STULL.**—The active superintendent of the New Pennsylvania Petroleum Co., Jacob Stull was born in Crawford county, Penn., September 2, 1874, grew to manhood on his mother's farm and attended the common school in their district. At the age of twenty-two he began working in the oil fields of Rouseville, Penn., and followed the oil business there for twelve years, being in the employ of A. B. Straub most of the time.

In 1899, Mr. Stull came to California and found work in the Los Angeles fields with Dr. Book, as a tool dresser, a department of the industry in which he was an adept. Soon after, he went to the Kern River field, in Kern county, and was in the employ of the Petroleum Development Co. for several years. Going back to Los Angeles, Mr. Stull again entered the employ of Dr. Book and remained five years.

At the end of that period he made a trip back east to Pennsylvania, but returned to California within the year and located in the Coalinga field, remaining about four years. He again made a trip back to the state of his birth and was united in marriage with Miss Clara Bussard and engaged in farming there. After a happy married life of just one year and ten days, Mrs. Stull passed away. Mr. Stull then sold the farm and came back to Coalinga.

From there he went to McKittrick and engaged with Jess Smith as a driller until 1915, when he came to the Santa Maria fields and at first engaged with the Hon. T. R. Finley of Santa Maria. His excellent work in fishing out tools stuck and lost in wells, rendering them practically useless, and in successfully re-drilling them, at once attracted attention to his genius

and ability, and his services were eagerly sought by A. F. Eugler of Santa Maria, president of the New Pennsylvania Oil Co., who employed Mr. Stull as superintendent.

In his new and responsible position he is succeeding remarkably well, as under his efficient management the company is being placed on a paying basis; and with the passing of time Mr. Stull is winning a place in the confidence of the oil men, by whom he is known as a conservative and careful employee. In the short time he has been associated with the Santa Maria fields, he has won a wide circle of friends.

**ARZA A. WHARFF.**—As production superintendent of the district comprising the leases of the Union Oil Co. in the Santa Maria fields and as a thorough-going oil man, Arza A. Wharff is ably demonstrating his efficiency as one of the most popular and painstaking employes of the corporation he represents. He was born near Marietta, Washington county, Ohio, June 8, 1869, a son of Amzi and Elvira (Fall) Wharff, the former a pioneer of that county, who died in 1898 aged sixty years. Mrs. Wharff is a resident of Lowell, O., and is seventy-four years old. This worthy couple had ten children, seven now living, Arza A. being the fourth child and the only one in California, as well as the only one in the oil business.

Mr. Wharff attended the country schools in Ohio, remaining on the farm until he was sixteen, and then began working for wages, first in the timber and in the sawmills in various sections of that state, and then in the oil fields in Washington county, going later to West Virginia, where he worked in the Sisterville and Belmont fields. Next going to Crawford county, Ill., he continued the oil business and in 1910 came to California and the Santa Maria fields, where he was made production man of the Union Oil Co. He has steadily worked his way to the front until he reached his present enviable position of district superintendent with supervision of the production on the following leases: Newlove, Fox, Hobbs, Kaiser, Folsom, Hartnell, Escole, Effson, Hill, Purisima and Bell.

While living in California, Mr. Wharff was united in marriage, in 1912, with Miss Margaret Bucy of Lowell, Ohio, and they have one daughter, Dorothy. The home of Mr. Wharff and his family is on the Hobbs lease. Mr. Wharff is a Mason, is a man of public spirit, wears a smiling countenance and radiates good cheer and optimism wherever he goes, and is highly respected by all who know him.

**W. C. PENTZER.**—The drilling foreman of the Union Oil Co. in the Santa Maria field, W. C. Pentzer is a thorough, painstaking workman, possessing a perfect knowledge of the business in hand and enjoying the confidence of his employers. He is a native of Ohio, known among his intimate friends as "Webb," and was born at Dayton on July 1, 1870. His father, W. A. Pentzer, was a well-known oil man in the Bradford, Penn., oil fields in 1878. Going from there to Findley, Ohio, in 1886, where he drilled the first gas well, he became wealthy, but lost his fortune in the Wyoming fields. The Pentzer family are of German origin, Augustus Pentzer, the grandfather, having come to the United States and settled in Maryland.

W. C. Pentzer was educated in the common schools and when eleven years old began working for his father in the Allegheny oil fields, doing such work as a lad of his years could do. From that early beginning until the present time he has been identified with the oil business. At the age of

twenty-one he was a driller. He has worked in the fields in Ohio, Wyoming and California. In partnership with a brother, E. J. Pentzer, under the name of Pentzer Bros., he engaged in contract drilling in 1894-1900.

In February of the latter year, he arrived in California and his experience soon secured him a position in the Los Angeles fields. Becoming acquainted with Thomas Hughes of Los Angeles, he was engaged by him to begin drilling on the Rice Ranch leases in the Santa Maria fields, and in 1904 Mr. Pentzer began his work here. One year later he was employed by the Union Oil Co., and from 1907 until 1908 was drilling in the Arroyo Grande section, but without results. In June, 1908, he returned to the Santa Maria fields and ever since has been employed here, his jurisdiction extending to all the leases of the Union Oil Co. in the Santa Maria field. His present work consists of re-drilling the old wells to deeper sands, which are from five hundred to six hundred feet below the first oil sands, thus prolonging the life of the field.

Mr. Pentzer is a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. Elks. He married, in Findley, Ohio, Miss Wana Erickson.

Mr. Pentzer is a hail-fellow well met, and has a host of friends, who honor him for his integrity and thorough understanding of the oil business, and especially for the public spirit he shows on all occasions in the support of all movements for the public good.

**ROSCOE E. UPTON.**—A mechanical genius, fond of machinery from a boy and now holding the responsible position of chief engineer of compression plant number one of the Pinal Dome in the Santa Maria oil field, Roscoe Upton is justly called a pioneer engineer of this field by reason of his assisting in installing the first compression plant for this company. A native son, he was born in Tuolumne county, a son of Thomas Upton, a pioneer of 1852, who lived in various parts of the state and saw much of its early growth, and died in San Jose aged sixty-three.

Roscoe Upton received his education principally in San Jose; and being of a mechanical turn of mind naturally turned his attention to machinery, supplementing his schooling by studying standard works pertaining to mechanical engineering and ever since keeping abreast of the times by reading the best publications on kindred subjects.

In 1904 Mr. Upton was employed by the Western Union Oil Co., and two years later he came to the Pinal Dome Co. Of the twelve years spent in the Santa Maria fields, ten have been in the employ of this company; and for four years of this time he has filled the position of chief engineer of compression plant number one, with seven engineers under his direction. Mr. Upton is a valued employe of the company, considerate of those under him and highly respected by all who have come in contact with him, both in business and social circles.

**RANDOLPH JOSEPH STOLTZ.**—He has been in charge of the upkeep of the pipe lines of the Union Oil Company from Orcutt to Avila, a distance of thirty-one miles, is well and favorably known in and about the Santa Maria oil fields and has been in the employ of the Union Oil Company since 1909.

A native of Missouri, R. J. Stoltz was born in St. Louis, July 12, 1875, a son of Sam Houston and Mary (Mikeske) Stoltz, farmers in Missouri and in Texas, whither the family moved in 1882, when R. J. was but seven years

old. In Texas, he attended the public school and grew to young manhood. He worked for the county, building roads for a time, also worked at farming, and gradually drifted into mechanical lines. He was employed in a boiler shop, and next worked at drilling, first of water wells and then of oil wells.

At the age of twenty-four, in 1899, Mr. Stoltz enlisted in Co. M, 33d Reg. U. S. Vol. Inf., for service in the Philippines, and served two years. After his discharge, he came to California and remained for a short time, then went to the Spindle Top oil fields at Beaumont, Tex., and worked as a well driller. He then went to Sour Lake and spent two years in the Humble oil fields and then was employed as a fireman on the Texas company's pipe line running from Tulsa, Okla., to Port Arthur. Then he fired one year for the refinery and pipe line department until 1909.

The above year Mr. Stoltz came to Coalinga and engaged with the Union Oil Company in their pipe line department, since which he has done all kinds of work, from digging ditches to managing the department, his present position. Mr. Stoltz is an efficient employe, enjoys the confidence of his superior officers, and has won a place for himself by his own earnest endeavors. He has been frugal and has saved and wisely invested his money, and is now owner of two valuable ranches of one hundred sixty acres each. He is a man of strong physique, active and manly, and has a wide circle of friends. He is the sole support of a widowed sister and her four children living in Texas.

**EDWIN S. JOHNSON.**—The genial proprietor of the Sanitary Steam Laundry and the O. K. Restaurant of Santa Maria is the true type of the Swedish-American citizen, and in Edwin S. Johnson that city has a public-spirited, successful man. Mr. Johnson was born December 3, 1882, at Halmstad, Sweden, the sixth child in order of birth of ten children born to his parents, August and Sophia (Larson) Johnson, both natives of Sweden and the latter still living at Halmstad.

It was in the public schools of that town that young Johnson received an education, attending until he was twelve. Then he went to work as a messenger boy in a railroad office, and remained until he was twenty. He was ambitious to get ahead, and had heard of the opportunities offered energetic people in the United States. Accordingly, on March 31, 1903, he arrived in Boston, Mass., and worked at whatever came to his hands to do.

Looking for a satisfactory location in which he might settle and begin building a career for himself, and where he might familiarize himself with the methods of doing business in this country, as well as become acquainted with the English language, Mr. Johnson began traveling throughout the United States, working at any kind of employment to pay his way, and in this way he visited nearly forty states, reaching California in 1907.

Santa Barbara county seemed to offer what he was seeking, and in the city of that name he opened a restaurant in 1908, being successful from the start. In May, 1910, he was united in marriage with Miss Elise Heggen, who was born in Valdal, Norway, and on January 2, 1911, they came to Santa Maria. The outlook was very good for business and he opened the O. K. Restaurant, and has carried it on ever since with a growing patronage.

In July, 1911, Mr. Johnson bought a lot and erected a building of cement blocks, installed modern machinery and embarked in the laundry business under the name of the Sanitary Steam Laundry. From time to time he has

added modern machinery and introduced methods for the carrying on of the business, and now has very extensive patronage. The business receives his personal attention, every detail is carefully considered, and his patrons are shown all possible consideration and courtesy. Mr. and Mrs. Johnson have three children living—Edwin, Norman and Joy. Mr. Johnson is a member of the Loyal Order of Moose and is one of the successful business men of Santa Maria, in which city he and his wife are justly popular and respected.

**HENRY A. STIER.**—A mechanic and a valued employe of the Union Oil Co. at Orcutt, H. A. Stier is of German descent, and was born in Dunkirk, N. Y., August 22, 1868. His parents, both of whom are now deceased, came from Germany to the United States and located in Dunkirk. Their three children are living—August, in Dunkirk; Elizabeth, at Silver Creek; and Henry A., at Santa Maria.

He attended the public schools at Dunkirk and was apprenticed to learn the trade of machinist at the Brooks Locomotive Works in that city, serving three years; after which he continued in the employ of the company four years. He next was employed at Warren, Pa., as a machinist, later becoming foreman of the shops. While living in Pennsylvania, Mr. Stier was united in marriage with Miss Myrtle Redmond, at New Lebanon. Three children have blessed the union: Harry and Raymond, both born in Pennsylvania, and Leland, in California.

In 1909 Mr. Stier came from Pennsylvania to Orcutt, and at once entered the employ of the Union Tool Co. as a machinist. He is a conscientious and painstaking workman, diligent and obliging, and since taking up his residence here, he has entered heartily into the affairs of the community, where he and Mrs. Stier have many friends.

About 1903 Mr. Stier took up Christian Science, and both he and his wife have gone through the class of San Jose and he has been first reader in First Society of Christ, Scientist, which he helped to organize in Santa Maria in 1913.

**EDGAR CRAIG.**—As superintendent of the Rice Ranch Oil Company, Edgar Craig has become one of the best-known oil men in the Santa Maria fields, where, by his painstaking efforts and thorough understanding of the business, he has demonstrated his ability in many ways. A native of Pennsylvania, he was born in Venango county—the place where drillers are made—January 1, 1876, a son of M. R. Craig, one of the first operators in the Bradford district, who made and lost several fortunes in the business and who is now a resident of Bakersfield. He married Mary Jane Savage, a native of New York, now deceased. Their three sons and two daughters are all living. The grandfather Craig was an oil man in the Pennsylvania fields, and a great-uncle, Colonel Drake, of that state, designed and built the first practical derrick for drilling oil wells and for pumping oil that was ever built. That same style of derrick, with but few changes, is in use today.

The youngest son of the Craig family, Edgar Craig grew up in Pennsylvania, had the advantages of the public schools and attended Western University of Pennsylvania one year, taking a mechanical engineering course. When he first started to work he was but twelve years old. A brother, Allen Craig, also an oil man, had come to California and was drilling in the Fullerton fields. Edgar had thoroughly learned drilling at Oil City and Reno, Penn., and at his brother's request came to California in 1896 and went to work in

the Los Angeles fields. He later engaged as a driller with his brother, who was doing contract drilling. For nearly ten years Edgar Craig drilled successfully in the Fullerton fields, becoming foreman driller. His next move was to Australia, where for two years he was in the employ of the British government, drilling water wells in the state of New South Wales. In 1908 he returned to California, worked in the Fullerton district a short time, and in 1910 came to the Santa Maria district. There he worked first for the Ideal Oil Company, then came to the Rice Ranch Oil Company as foreman, and after two years was promoted to superintendent. He has installed a gas compressor and made many other changes for the good of the company.

Mr. Craig was united in marriage in Riverside with Miss Miriam Webb. He is a thirty-second degree Mason, a member of the Fullerton lodge, and the Shrine in Los Angeles. He is popular wherever known, and is generous and public-spirited. Mrs. Craig is popular in social circles, and with her husband enjoys a wide circle of friends.

**JOHN D. BAGNELL.**—The production foreman on the Rice Ranch Oil Company's lease has made a record for himself during the past five years in which he has held that position in the Santa Maria oil fields, and as a popular, cheerful and optimistic citizen, John D. Bagnell has won a host of friends. He was born March 25, 1870, in Oneida county, N. Y., a son of William and Elizabeth (Farrell) Bagnell, both born in Ireland and now deceased, the former dying in 1907, aged eighty-two years. John D. Bagnell was reared on the farm and attended the country schools of Oneida county until he was in his eighteenth year. Then, going to Syracuse, he became a driver of a horse street car and followed that two years. In 1890 he went to Cripple Creek, Colo., and engaged in gold mining, there being about five hundred men employed at the mine. In 1893 that city had a population of eleven thousand.

In 1894, Mr. Bagnell went back to New York state and remained until 1900, after which he went to work in the oil fields at Salem, W. Va., as a general all-round man. He thus became familiar with various branches of the oil business. In 1908 he came to California and secured a position with the Standard Oil Company as a pumper, and remained with them two years, when he came to Santa Maria. He began at the bottom and from time to time was promoted until he reached his present position. He is a painstaking workman, has the ability to get results from those under him, and knows when orders are properly carried out.

Politically he is a Democrat, in religion a Catholic, and in his fraternal relations belongs to the Fraternal Order of Eagles. Of the seven children born to his parents, he is the fifth in order of birth, the others being Laurence and William, both deceased; Daniel, of Spokane, Wash.; Christopher, of Oklahoma; Mary J., Mrs. Sigmond Zivi, of New York City, and Alice, Mrs. Tom Daniels, of Syracuse, N. Y. Mr. Bagnell is unmarried.

**C. P. SKINNER.**—As proprietor of the Orcutt Garage and counted upon as one of the prominent men for the good of the community, C. P. Skinner has identified himself with the best interests of the town and county. He was born in Perry county, Ill., March 2, 1876, attended the common schools, and learned the machinist's trade, spending five years in the contract shop of the Pullman Manufacturing Co. At the end of that time, he went to

Montana and worked in the towns of Bozeman, Livingston and Red Lodge, in the latter place as assistant master machinist in the Northwestern Improvement Co.'s shops, then busy with making and repairing machinery used in mining coal.

In 1909 Mr. Skinner came to California and at Coalinga entered the employ of the Bunting Iron Works, after which he was engaged, for one year, at the Associated Pumping station at King City as pumper. In 1911 he came to Orcutt and for the following two years was in the employ of the Union Tool Co. as machinist. Then, in partnership with I. L. Culp under the firm name of Culp and Skinner, he erected a garage in Orcutt and established the Orcutt Machine Shop and Garage. The building is a one-story galvanized iron structure 40x56 feet, and is equipped with the most modern machinery and appliances for repairing any kind of machinery and automobile work. From a small beginning the establishment has grown to large proportions and is a prosperous concern. In 1914 Mr. Skinner bought his partner's interest, changed the name to the Orcutt Garage, and has given it its proper place in the business world of the Santa Maria valley.

Mr. Skinner has been twice married. His first marriage with Mary Ross, a native of Illinois, was celebrated in Perry county, and three children were born, Cynthia, Woodward and Etta. The two daughters live in Duquoin, Ill., and the son is with his father. The second marriage, in Livingston, Mont., united Mr. Skinner with Mrs. Anna Osborne, a native of Minnesota. Mr. Skinner is a representative of a pioneer family of Illinois. His father, Benjamin Sprague Skinner, was born in Duquoin, and is now living in Montana as station agent for the C. M. and P. S. railway at Camp Creek. He married Etta Page, of New York, and they are aged sixty-seven and sixty-two, respectively. Two sons and two daughters are living. Grandfather Skinner came from New York in the thirties and settled in Illinois and grew up with the country there. C. P. Skinner is a member of the Moose, and is a Republican. He is wide-awake, progressive and courteous, each year seeing him more firmly established in his community.

**ROBERT CASSIUS GLINES.**—A successful business man in Orcutt and a member of the firm of Allen & Glines, proprietors of the Orcutt Boiler Works, R. C. Glines was born in the Santa Maria valley, February 1, 1877, a son of C. H. Glines, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this work. R. C. Glines was educated in the public schools of Santa Maria and reared on his father's ranch, of which for two years he had charge, and carried it on with success. But wishing to embark in other lines of work, he left the ranch and for a couple of years served as United States forest ranger at Cuyama and in the Buckhorn district. He was then employed ten years with the Union Tool Co. at Orcutt, learned the trade of blacksmith and machinist, and for four years served as head blacksmith.

Having mastered the business and finding an opening at Orcutt with Frank R. Allen, he bought out Bert Neill, who had established a boiler works there. That business has been developed to large proportions since they purchased it in 1913. The plant is fully equipped with all modern machinery, and they do all kinds of work for all the leading oil companies in that district and give entire satisfaction to their patrons. They employ three to five men, Mr. Allen doing the field work and Mr. Glines having charge of the shop. Since embarking in business for himself, Mr. Glines has met with suc-



cess. He has great faith in the future of the oil business in the Orcutt district, and himself holds an option on two hundred acres of oil land which he hopes to dispose of at a handsome profit.

Mr. Glines was united in marriage, in 1898, with Miss Cora McCraskey, who, like himself, is a native of California, born in the Santa Maria valley. They have four children: Neill C., Elza M., Ariel Roberta, and R. C., Jr. Their first home was erected by Mr. Glines at Orcutt, it being the first house erected in the Twitchell division of that town. He sold this and bought their present place, located near his place of business.

Mr. Glines is a Mason and a Republican, and as such is a member of the county central committee. He was one of the organizers of the Orcutt school district and served on the board of education, of which, during the year 1916-17, he has been president; and for six years he was clerk of the board. Mr. Glines is a self-made man and, like his pioneer father, is intensely interested in all movements that have for their object the building up of the county and valley. He and Mrs. Glines have a wide circle of friends and are highly respected.

**JAMES F. FORBES.**—It is to the pioneers of every locality that the burden of establishing the basis of the present day prosperity falls, and to them proper credit should be given. Among these worthy men, special mention should be made of James F. Forbes of Orcutt, in the Santa Maria valley. He erected the fourth building in the town and became one of the upbuilders in commercial circles in the oil fields district. He was born in Nova Scotia, April 11, 1859, a son of Captain Daniel and Rebecca (Rogers) Forbes, both natives of Nova Scotia, born of Scotch ancestry. Captain Forbes followed the sea for many years and died in 1909, aged eighty-eight years. His father was a farmer in Canada and a native of that country, his parents having emigrated from Scotland. Mrs. Forbes died in 1916, aged eighty-six years. She had three children: James F.; William D., of Lake county, and Mrs. May Spurling, of Orcutt.

James F. attended the schools in Nova Scotia, but was early put to a practical test, going to sea when he was sixteen on his father's ship, the *Alexander*, studying the while to fit himself for advancement as a seaman. In due time he passed the examination and became first mate, and gradually worked his way to the top, becoming master mariner. Having been reared in the environment of shipping and shipbuilding, it was but natural that he should be an apt student. He sailed to many of the leading ports of the world—going to Hamburg and Granada, passing three times around the Horn and four times around Cape of Good Hope, and making two voyages to Calcutta. He also sailed to Manila and, in 1885, to San Francisco, when he came with a load of sugar for Mr. Spreckels.

In 1884, James F. Forbes was married to Miss Jessie Crow, a native of Clifton, Colchester county, Nova Scotia, and a daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Smith) Crow.

After he had returned from Manila he met an old friend, William C. Ambrose, who secured a position for him on the railroad, and he became section foreman at Saticoy, Ventura county, being later transferred to Coalinga. Having become acquainted with W. W. Orcutt and other prominent oil men, officials of the Union Oil Co., Mr. Forbes started in the livery business, when oil was struck in what is now the Coalinga field, and branched

out as a teaming contractor. Continued application to his work undermined his health and he spent one season at a sanatorium.

While there, he was told that the Union Oil Co. was going to open up at Orcutt, which was then a place just surveyed, and existing only in the imagination of the officers of that company. Mr. Forbes, however, came to Orcutt, bought two lots, and erected a wooden store building on the site of the Orcutt Mercantile Co.'s store. His was the fourth building to be erected in the new town, and he was the first merchant. His stock was of general merchandise, principally groceries. In January, 1905, he was made postmaster and served until his resignation, in 1913. In December, 1910, the building and contents were destroyed by fire, a loss of \$52,000 to the firm of J. F. Forbes & Co., an incorporation, with only \$12,000 insurance. At least \$25,000 of this fell on Mr. Forbes, who owned the building and two-thirds of the stock. Mr. Forbes then organized the Orcutt Improvement Co. and they erected the present building in 1911 at a cost of about \$10,000. It is eighty by ninety feet, the second floor being used for a public and dance hall and the entire lower floor being occupied by the Orcutt Mercantile Co. and the post office. The officers are: F. C. Twitchell, president; Bank of Santa Maria, treasurer; C. E. Webb, secretary; and J. F. Forbes, vice-president. Mr. Forbes is also proprietor of the Orcutt Bar, and owns, besides, three hundred twenty acres of improved land in Kings county.

Mr. and Mrs. Forbes are parents of eight children, four of whom died in early childhood. The others are: Aubrey D., an employe of the American Oil Co.; Stella, wife of J. T. Porter, of Maricopa; Edward Everett, an employe of the Associated Oil Co., and Willard, attending school at home.

It will be seen that the perseverance of Mr. Forbes has been the dominating factor in his career, and though suffering heavy losses, he is always optimistic of the future.

**JOHN M. NORRIS.**—The name of Norris is inseparably connected with the history of the Santa Maria valley as well as with the larger possibilities of Santa Barbara county. John M. Norris was born on a ranch that is now the site of Orcutt and the oil field district, May 20, 1878, the youngest of ten children born to his parents, John R. and Mary T. (Mattingly) Norris, natives of Virginia and Missouri respectively. J. R. Norris crossed the plains from Missouri in 1849, and engaged in mining in Mariposa county with considerable success. He went to Sonoma county, where he was married, his wife having crossed the plains in 1852. She died in 1910, aged seventy-two years. Her husband died the previous year at the age of eighty-two years. They became pioneers of the Santa Maria valley, and ever since then the name has been prominently identified with Santa Barbara county. J. R. Norris was for years trustee of the Santa Maria Union High School. He enlisted for service in the Mexican War, and became first lieutenant, serving under General Price in the celebrated Missouri White Horse Mounted volunteers, which made up a very important part of the United States cavalry during the war. He was discharged at Santa Fe, N. M., after the war and rode a mule back to Missouri.

John M. Norris attended the public schools of the Santa Maria valley and the high school in Santa Maria, and was reared to farm life on the home place. From early manhood he has been interested in politics; and as a Democrat he has for years been prominently connected with county affairs.

He follows a general farming on his sixty-acre ranch near Orcutt. Mr. Norris was appointed roadmaster of the Orcutt district and has had the oversight of about two hundred and fifty miles of public highway, and the supervision of from fifteen to twenty men and from twenty-five to one hundred head of stock. It is needless to say that the roads in his district were kept in good order, as careful inspection will show. He has studied the road question and is authority as a road-builder. On January 1, 1917, he accepted a position as teamster with the Union Oil Co.

Mr. Norris was united in marriage, October, 1902, with Miss Mary Harp, a native daughter of California; and two children have blessed this union—Naomi Frances and Chester Eugene. Mr. Norris is a Mason and belongs to Hesperian Lodge No. 264 in Santa Maria, and with his wife is a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. The family are members of the Methodist Church of Orcutt.

It is to such men as John M. Norris, a native son of California, that the state is indebted for the execution of the plans laid down by their pioneer fathers, many of whom predicted the wonderful expansion that would come to this country if their plans for its development were properly carried out, thus leaving a heritage of civic responsibility to their posterity.

**LUCIUS LAMAR FARNUM.**—Since November 14, 1914, L. L. Farnum has been assistant engineer at the compressor plant of the Union Oil Co. at Orcutt. He was born in Los Angeles, April 27, 1894, a son of the late Cook Farnum, a pioneer oil-well driller of the Los Angeles fields. His father died on his ranch near Orcutt, November, 1916, aged fifty-five years. Mrs. Farnum and her daughter are living in Los Angeles; the other child, a son, Lavoisia, resides at Orcutt.

The oldest of three children born to his parents, Lucius L. Farnum attended the public schools in Los Angeles and Santa Maria, and pursued a two years' course in the high school at the latter place. When he was sixteen he began working around engines and machinery, and in 1913 he secured a position with the Union Oil Co. He is a member of the Eagles and Moose lodges of Santa Maria.

By the installation of the compressor plant, a great saving is made, as the gas now converted into gasoline went to waste. The immense Snow engines are the invention of the last four or five years, and are run on natural gas. They are explosion engines on much the same principle as the ordinary gasoline engine. Natural gas is compressed under refrigeration and gasoline is produced, about three gallons to every 1000 cubic feet of compressed gas. The invention of this kind of an engine makes a gas well as valuable as an oil well and about as eagerly sought. L. L. Farnum and Robert Reid are the engineers in charge of the compressor plant on the Newlove lease in the Santa Maria field.

**ROBERT P. REID.**—The resident chief engineer of the compressor plant of the Union Oil Co. in the Santa Maria field has grown up in the engineering business, and beginning with a course on mechanical engineering, he has, by years of practical experience, learned the business in every detail and is competent to hold any position in an engineering line. While practically a stranger in the Santa Maria field, Robert Reid is typically western in his experience and habits. He was born in Virginia City, Nev., March 1, 1880, grew to young manhood among the mining scenes of the Comstock until he was

eighteen, attended the public schools and took a special engineering course at the Humboldt Engineering school in San Francisco. His first work was as a shipbuilder for the Union Iron Works, for a period of twelve years. The following two years were spent with the shore gang, repairing engines and ship machinery for the Pacific Coast Steamship Company.

His next engagement was under the United States civil service as shipbuilder in the navy yard at Bremmerton, Wash., for two years. Returning to San Francisco he was employed by the Risdon Iron Works one year, then went on the road for Chas. C. Moore and Co., installing engines, boilers, pumps, etc., and helped install the exhibits for that company for the Panama Pacific Exposition. After finishing the above work he engaged with the Union Oil Company at Oleum for one year, and in February, 1916, accepted his present position.

It will be interesting to the readers of this work to know a little about the compressor plant on the Newlove lease belonging to the Union Oil Co. This plant has two sets of Snow engines, of 450 h. p. each. Each set has one low-pressure and one high-pressure engine of 500 h. p.—in all, about 2,000 h. p. These are the largest engines in these fields, and they are used in making gasoline from natural gas. They were installed in 1913, and are now using gas from the Newlove, Squires and Hartnell leases.

Mr. Reid was united in marriage in San Francisco with Miss Christine Cameron, born in Virginia City, Nev.; and they have one daughter, Bessie. He was made a Mason in San Francisco, where he holds his membership, and he is also connected with the Independent Order of Foresters. The parents of Mr. Reid are Robert and Mary Reid, the former a pioneer of Virginia City, who was station tender on the Comstock lode. He and his wife are living in San Francisco. At the age of seventy-five he is hale and hearty. Besides Robert, the children are: Jennie, Mrs. Laist; Stewart, a copper-smith; and Alice, now Mrs. Lewis, all of San Francisco.

**ANTHONY TINSLEY DAVIS.**—Enjoying today a reputation gained largely by the intelligent use of his two hands, when forced to climb from the lowest rung on the ladder, Anthony Tinsley Davis is a highly esteemed citizen of Shandon, in which community he has for some years been a prosperous grain-grower and stockman. Born in Henry county, Va., on March 3, 1868, he is the son of Anthony Davis, Sr., who was also a native of Virginia, of an old-time family. For four years the senior Davis fought in the Civil War on the side of the Confederacy, thereby losing his health, so that he died when but forty-six years old. Anthony's mother was Miss Lucy Gray, a native of Pittsylvania county, Va., and the daughter of Benjamin Gray, a farmer. She still resides in Virginia on the old farm, to which Anthony Tinsley Davis returned for a visit when he had been seventeen years in California.

The second eldest of eleven children, nine of whom are still living, the subject of our sketch grew up on a farm and attended the public schools, taking charge of the ranch when only fifteen years of age, and continuing in its management until he was twenty-one. At that time, when his two youngest brothers were old enough to succeed to the responsibility, Mr. Davis moved to Ray county, Mo., and for two years farmed for himself. Then, meeting with two brothers-in-law of George Post, of Shandon, who described to him the attractions of the Golden State, he decided to abandon

Missouri, and on Thanksgiving Day, 1841, he came to California as the only member of his family to reach the Coast. Somewhat in debt on account of the expense for fare, he was forced to go to work immediately; and entering the service of a Mr. Shaw at one dollar a day, he stayed with him until his crop was in. So clever was he with the reins, that he drove a team of thirty-two horses, thereby establishing a reputation for skill which enabled him always to secure employment. At the end of four years he had paid his debts, and had saved somewhat over one thousand dollars; when he bought a six-horse team, and set to work raising wheat and hay and making improvements on rented land in the Cholame valley.

In the fall of 1895, Anthony Davis was married to Miss Alta Grainger, a native of Santa Paula, and the daughter of Baxter Grainger, who in early days had come across the plains, originally from Missouri, and later from Kansas. He was, indeed, a pioneer of Spring district, now Shandon, and homesteaded a hundred sixty acres, eventually retiring to Arroyo Grande, where he now resides. In Shandon, Miss Grainger went to school; and there she grew up a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Five children bless the home: Lucy, Edith (Mrs. W. H. Post, of Riverside county), Alma, Ida, and Baxter.

For two years Mr. Davis ran the ranch in the Cholame valley, above referred to, and then he went in for grain farming on Shandon Flat. In the meantime, in 1906, he had bought, first a hundred sixty acres half a mile west of Shandon, and later two ranches of one hundred sixty acres each, lying half a mile farther south, which he farms, while renting six hundred forty acres near by. This he devotes to grain and stock, putting in about four hundred forty acres a year to wheat. To accomplish his extensive work, he raises draft-horses, and runs three big teams and uses a combined harvester of thirty-two horse-power, with which he reaps his own crops and those of others in the vicinity.

Mr. Davis is at present a trustee in the Shandon school district, an office in which he has served for several terms. He is a member of Santa Lucia Lodge of the I. O. O. F., of Paso Robles, and is always popular in social circles. In politics, he is a Democrat.

No one will doubt Mr. Davis' success, and it is worthy of note that he attributes this success largely to steady and close application.

**GEORGE A. WHITE.**—In what manner a man may inherit success, or rather, perhaps, the genius for overcoming obstacles and ultimately succeeding, is illustrated in the family history of George A. White, whose father, George H. White, a native of Restigouche county, New Brunswick, was also a farmer of repute and affluence. In that delightful corner of the East, the elder White married Miss Jean McNair, who was born in that district, of Scotch descent. Seven children resulted from this marriage. Of these, two sons, Richard and David, came to California about 1886, Richard settling in San Luis Obispo County, and David in Sierra county. Two years later their parents and the other children followed them to the West. George H. White, the father, bought three hundred twenty acres where the subject of this sketch now resides, and there he lived until his death on May 1, 1904. The mother still resides at San Luis Obispo.

The youngest of the four children still living, George A. White was born on September 1, 1876. He was brought up in New Brunswick until

he was twelve years of age, and was sent to the public schools there and in the Eagle district. As a lad he learned to drive the big teams used on the ranches, and to ride far and wide after stock; and he remained at home, assisting on the place, until his father's death.

After his father died, he removed to San Luis Obispo and engaged in the grocery business with Arthur Luttrell, under the firm name of White & Luttrell, retaining his connection with the firm for four years, when he sold out his interest and resumed farming. Leasing the home place, he took up the raising of grain and cattle, and has continued in that field ever since. The home ranch contained three hundred twenty acres. He bought seven hundred twenty acres additional, and later sold two hundred forty. He now owns four hundred eighty acres, and leases considerable land in addition, managing in all about eleven hundred twenty acres. The ranch is located in McMillan's cañon, extending some two miles along the road, and here he has about seventy head of horses and cattle. He raises about two hundred sixty acres of grain each year.

In San Luis Obispo, September 22, 1909, George White was married to Miss Emelie Gates, born in Fresno, by whom he has had three children, Richard, George and Marion. Mrs. White is the daughter of Solomon and Zerelda (Shimmin) Gates, natives of Ontario, Canada, and Wisconsin and early settlers in Mendocino county, Cal. They moved to San Luis Obispo County, where Mrs. White attended school in Eagle district. Mr. and Mrs. White are Prohibitionists and devoted attendants at the Presbyterian Church.

**JOHN T. HOPPER.**—No one can read the absorbing story of John T. Hopper and his struggle to "win out," despite the fact that bad luck met all his efforts, as a young rancher, for the first, second, third and even the fourth year, and fail to be impressed with the heroic qualities demanded of pioneers in the arduous task of founding such a commonwealth as California. A native son, John was born three miles west of San Miguel, March 15, 1870, his father being none other than John B. Hopper, the long-esteemed pioneer of California and San Luis Obispo County, who is very properly mentioned elsewhere in this work. The third oldest of eleven children still living, of the twelve born to this veteran, John was brought up in this county, either at work on a farm or in attendance at Willow Creek, Adelaida, and Shandon public schools. When not over nine years of age he followed the plow; and he labored at all-round farm work until he was twenty-one, his farm wages going to the support of the home folks.

In 1897, John T. Hopper located on his present place, leasing a ranch of such raw land that never before, perhaps, had a furrow been made there; so that one of his first struggles was to break up the ground and plant the six hundred forty acres to grain. Four hundred fifty acres are now under the plow, and managed according to the most approved and latest methods.

When John started out for himself, he was in partnership with his brother, D. L. Hopper, a combination of enthusiasm and energy from which much might reasonably be expected. The first year, however, they not only did not raise anything salable or serviceable, but they paid twenty dollars a ton for alfalfa from the Sacramento ranch in order to feed and save their stock. This expense alone was a burden, but John worked it out through day labor at the Sacramento ranch, paid for at the rate of a dollar a day,

while D. L. Hopper ran the team. They stuck to their original plan, and a second time planted a crop; but it was four years before their luck turned and they began to get anything worth while for their toil. The year 1901, however, proved an excellent season, and they then got such a good start that they were soon out of debt.

In this pleasant and helpful manner the brothers continued together until 1906, when their partnership was dissolved and John T. Hopper managed his affairs alone. Since then he has bought two hundred forty acres adjoining his place, farmed it, and used the land for stock pasture. Each year he puts in about two hundred fifty acres to grain. In farming his place he uses two big teams and a combined harvester operated by twenty-seven horses. Four brothers, in fact, are interested in this machine, which does the harvesting on from a thousand to twelve hundred acres a year. He also raises draft horses of the Clydesdale type.

A very hard worker during most of his years, and one who for a long time performed all of his own labor, John T. Hopper has at last been rewarded with the success which eventually should come to every one who sticks to his last and pegs away industriously. He is a stockholder and a director in the Farmers' Alliance Business Association of Paso Robles, and is interested in the Imusdale Oil Co., operating at Parkfield.

Mr. Hopper is a Democrat, and for several years has been a member of the County Central Committee and a delegate to the county and state conventions. He has served for eight years as a trustee of the Eagle school district, and has also done considerable grand jury duty. In social circles he is a member of Santa Lucia Lodge No. 350, I. O. O. F., of Paso Robles, and of the Encampment, in which he is Past Patriarch.

**OLIVER AND EVERETT HOPPER.**—What is often noted in a progressive community—that where industry and consequent success have marked the life and labors of a parent, the same qualities of attainment and the same reward are characteristic of the children who bear an honored name—is illustrated in the case of Oliver and Everett Hopper, the two sons of John B. Hopper, the pioneer represented on another page of this work. Born on the Kentucky ranch at Adelaida, the one on July 3, 1880, and the other on December 29, 1881, the brothers attended the district schools in the Cholame and Eagle neighborhoods, and early learned to make themselves useful about their father's farm. To their great advantage, also, their father took them with him when he farmed upon the Stirling Cook ranch, and there they acquired the trick of driving the team of many horses.

When able to push out for themselves, they leased and operated, for four years, the George H. White place; and in 1909 they formed a partnership with their other brother, D. L. Hopper, under the firm name of Hopper Bros. The same year they bought the James Jones ranch, of about eight hundred acres, and the following year added to it, by purchase, the J. T. Jones ranch of the same size. Since then they have bought the Marsh and John Conroy ranches, so that now they have almost two thousand acres of land in a body, located on the west side of the Cholame river opposite Shandon. At suitable headquarters on this splendid estate, Oliver and Everett manage the enterprise, while D. L. Hopper farms independently in McMillan's cañon. Besides raising grain, they breed cattle and horses, their brand, J6 (the brand of their honored father), adding to the value of their superior

Durham cattle and fine Percheron horses. One of the products of their stables was the thoroughbred stallion Carnation. Most of the time they keep busy two large teams and a combined harvester pulled by twenty-seven horses, an imposing mass of mechanism capable of gathering in the grain of seven hundred acres or more a year. With an artesian well two hundred eighty feet deep and flowing constantly, the young ranchers are able to cultivate and grow alfalfa with success. The water is exceptionally good, and the pressure forces it to the residence and barns for domestic use.

The Hopper brothers are stockholders and active participants in the Farmers' Alliance Business Association of Paso Robles; and they also take a proper interest in political affairs, preferring the principles and forms of government advocated by the Democrats.

**MARTIN PETERSEN.**—Not everyone puts his shoulder to the wheel with the same confidence and enthusiasm as does Martin Petersen; yet if more would-be ranchers viewed their work with the same broad attitude of mind, success would oftener attend the labors of those to whom is committed the responsibility of getting the earth to yield its utmost for the benefit of the sons of men. Martin Petersen is a native son, born in Gonzales, Monterey county, May 25, 1885. His father was the well-known pioneer, Thomas Petersen, an outline of whose life is printed elsewhere in this work. He was the oldest of two children, and the only son, and from his second year was reared at Templeton. He grew up at the homestead, played and conned his lessons with the other boys at Templeton, and from a lad helped his father, finding the zest of driving big teams, and the attraction of the other ranch work, sufficient to induce him to remain at home until 1909.

When he began to farm for himself, Martin rented a ranch near Templeton, at the same time assisting in the operation of the home lands. After four years he leased a ranch near Creston, and planted the six hundred acres in part to grain, reserving a portion of the tract for stock. In the summer of 1916 he rented the Glendora ranch on Dry creek, and there devoted eight hundred acres to the raising of grain, putting in about four hundred acres to wheat and barley.

During September, 1914, the old bells of San Luis Obispo rang out their glad greeting to Martin Petersen and his fair bride, Miss Effie May Hodgins, a native of Missouri. Her father, Robert Leonidas Hodgins, was born in Cedar county, Iowa, and served four years in the Civil War as a member of an Iowa regiment. He was married in Missouri to Miss Susan Chandler, a native of Indiana, and later brought his wife and seven children across the plains by means of teams and wagons. They thus became pioneers in Idaho, first on the Camas prairie and later at Boise City, where one of the sons filled the office of sheriff of Ada county at the time of the Haywood trial, and was afterwards United States marshal under both President Roosevelt and President Taft. One of Mrs. Petersen's sisters, Minnie, is the wife of Willard Crippen, a pioneer farmer in the Palouse country, Wash. The parents died in Idaho, where they were highly esteemed, Mr. Hodgins having been particularly well known in Grand Army circles. Mrs. Petersen was educated in the public schools of Idaho, and later, in 1903, came to California. One child, Leonidas Thomas, blessed the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Petersen, and with them is a center of attraction in Presbyterian Church and Fraternal Brotherhood circles.



**DAVID LE ROY HOPPER.**—A fine young man, who maintains the Hopper tradition for success, is David Le Roy Hopper, a native son, who was born at Windsor, Sonoma county, on October 31, 1876. His father was John B. Hopper, whose life story, related elsewhere, adds materially to the value of our work. He himself was brought here to the Shandon district when a mere child, and passed his boyhood on a farm at Willow Creek and in Adelaida, and in attendance at the public school of the Eagle district. Those were happy days, for no sooner was school dismissed than David seized the reins and drove the big team of the farm. After a while he worked out; and then, as was often the custom, his wages went to his parents until he was twenty-one years of age.

Attaining his majority, David began to farm in partnership with his brother, J. T. Hopper, and although at first they were disappointed in a harvest, they had a good crop in 1901, and so got nicely on their feet again. Together they farmed until the fall of 1906, when they dissolved partnership and David went into business for himself, leasing the Alexander McMillan ranch of four hundred eighty acres. This he continued to farm for three years, in the meantime also renting three hundred twenty acres adjoining. In 1909, he took charge of the Frank Mathos ranch of three hundred twenty acres, and operated that for a couple of years.

In 1911, David Hopper rented his present place of Peter McMillan, a tract consisting of six hundred forty acres; and when this was joined to the Mathos ranch, he controlled not less than nine hundred sixty acres, three hundred fifty of which he put into grain annually. The three hundred twenty acres yielded, in 1916, four thousand sixty sacks of grain. For the operation of the ranch, he uses two eight-horse teams. He also raises horses and cattle, and with his brothers is a partner in the Hopper Bros.' ranch of about two thousand acres at Shandon, which is used for farming and stock-raising. He also owns property in Shandon improved with a flowing well.

At Lemoore, David Le Roy Hopper was married to Miss Laura McMillan, who was born in McMillan's cañon, a daughter of Alexander McMillan; and they have one child, Rhoda Frances. Mr. Hopper is a Democrat. He is a stockholder in the Farmers Alliance Business Association. Fraternally, he is a popular member of the Odd Fellows, being affiliated with Santa Lucia Lodge at Paso Robles; while Mrs. Hopper is equally popular in Presbyterian Church circles.

**JOHN B. HOPPER.**—If John B. Hopper had done nothing more than set in operation the energy and enterprise represented in his progressive and successful family, he would have deserved the respect both of his contemporaries and of posterity; but he did something more: he lived the life of an exemplary citizen, neighbor and friend, and so contributed his full share to raising high the standard of all that is truly American and, more than that, genuinely Californian. John Hopper was born in Lafayette county, Mo., in 1834. His father was Charles Hopper, a native of North Carolina, who first settled in Lafayette county, and then, in 1854, five years after his brother Amos had crossed the plains, traveled west to California. John B. Hopper also preceded his father by three years in the trip across the prairie. Charles Hopper's train had trouble with the Indians, but it arrived safely in California, and the pioneers settled first in Napa county, then in Sonoma, and finally in Mendocino county. There Charles Hopper devoted the rest of his life to hunting, trapping and the tanning of hides. No pioneer, per-

haps, ever enjoyed his life more; he loved California and had intense confidence in its future; and he was hale until his death, which occurred on a deer hunt when he was in his ninety-fourth year.

It was in 1851, when he was seventeen years of age, that John B. Hopper crossed the plains to California with the conventional ox teams and wagons. Ten years later, on May 14, he was married at Cloverdale to Miss Frances Grove, a native of Trenton, Butler county, O., who crossed the plains to California with her parents in 1853. Her parents were David and Catherine (Richter) Grove, natives, respectively, of Virginia and Germany. Arriving on the coast, they settled on Mark West creek, near Windsor, in Sonoma county.

After his marriage, John B. Hopper set up as a farmer near Windsor. In 1868 he came to San Luis Obispo County, living one year on the Huasna, and then near San Miguel, where he engaged in sheep-raising. In that year of years for misfortune, the period of the 1877 drought, Mr. Hopper lost heavily. He was compelled to sacrifice the savings of years of toil, and had to abandon the sheep business altogether. He then spent some time in Sonoma county, California, in Oregon, and in Yreka, California, but soon returned to San Luis Obispo County, locating in the Adelaida country, where he farmed until 1887. He pre-empted one hundred sixty acres of land in the Cholame valley, about ten miles above Shandon, and soon homesteaded a hundred sixty acres in the Eagle district, where he farmed until he retired. Strange to say, he, too, died while on a deer hunt, passing away at San Miguel, August 13, 1913, at the age of seventy-nine. He was popular with all classes, and especially so among the Odd Fellows and in Baptist circles. His good wife, hale, hearty and happy, continues to reside with her children, all of whom reverence her and shower upon her their affection.

Of the thirteen children born to Mr. and Mrs. Hopper, one, Elwood, died at the age of four years. Sarah, now Mrs. Yancy McFadden, resides near El Centro. Mr. McFadden was sheriff of San Luis Obispo County for over four years, and deputy sheriff for eight years. Nancy married Mr. Brians, of Los Angeles. Mary married Mr. Young, and died in August, 1916, at Los Angeles. John T. is a large farmer and stockman in the Eagle district. Lucretia, better known as Mrs. Thompson, lives in San Miguel. George L. resides at Shandon. Emma, now Mrs. Arthur Waite, lives in Lemoore. D. Le Roy is a farmer and stockman of McMillan's cañon. Henrietta is the wife of Herbert Waite, of King City. Oliver and Everett are farmers at Shandon; and Addie is the wife of Mr. Stanley, of the same place.

**JOHN P. ESTERGREN.**—The history of the Lurcka school district, famed for its enterprising residents as well as for its superior agricultural products, must begin, almost, with the story of John P. Estergren and his pioneer work as one of the oldest settlers in that region. Born near Gothenburg, Sweden, on February 24, 1851, Mr. Estergren was the son of a farmer named John Estergren, who spent his last days in Martin county, Minn., Mrs. Estergren having died in Sweden when John P. was a mere child. The second youngest of three children—Clara, who died in Kansas, and the Rev. Gustav Estergren, pastor of the Swedish Lutheran Church at St. Cloud, Minn., being the other two—John P. Estergren attended school and worked on a farm until he was nearly of age.

In 1871, he came to the United States, and settled for a year at Chicago, after which he moved to Brazil, Clay county, Ind., where he mined coal for

six years. About 1878 he pushed still further west, to Minnesota, and located at Sherburn, Martin county, where his father had taken up a farm, and owned a small place. Nine years later, when a moderate degree of prosperity had rewarded his efforts, he left Minnesota for San Francisco, in which city he took to teaming.

Having had his attention directed to the many advantages of San Luis Obispo County, Mr. Estergren, in 1889, moved south and bought his present place, a tract of one hundred eight acres in the Eureka district, which he soon greatly improved by clearing it of brush and bushes, breaking ground, and sowing to grain. He even set out an orchard of ten acres in prunes; but finding, four years later, that there was no market for that fruit, now so highly prized, he grubbed the orchard out and devoted the land to farming and stock-raising. In those days he used to rent some two hundred acres adjoining his property, upon which he raised grain; but now he busies himself more with stock, for which he requires three hundred acres, as range land, in addition to that which he possesses. His Durham cattle guarantee the quality of products from his small dairy; while, when it comes to an appraisal of the cattle and poultry on his farm, neither raiser nor purchaser need for a moment be doubtful as to results.

At San Francisco, John P. Estergren was married to Miss Mathilda Ober, a native of Engleholm, Skaane. Their wedlock was blessed by the birth of one child, Gustav Emanuel, a graduate of Bethany Academy, at Lindsborg, Kan., and of the University of California. From the latter institution, in 1916, he received the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and he is now engaged in educational work. The family are members of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Templeton, and John P. Estergren has served therein as both a deacon and a trustee. He has also superintended its Sunday school, and has helped build the attractive brick church. A Republican whose special hobby is the support of all good educational measures, this worthy pioneer has been a trustee of the Eureka school district for many years.

**GUY T. WORDEN.**—Born at San Luis Obispo, June 24, 1887, the son of Solomon Truman Worden, Guy T. Worden inherited, as an inspiration to good citizenship, war memories of his father, who was a native of Adrian, Mich., and entered the great civil conflict as a private in a Michigan regiment. In 1874, Solomon Worden came to California and settled in Tehama county, after which he came to San Luis Obispo and, in 1891, located at Shandon. Then the country was absolutely unsettled, and Solomon, having bought some land, built there the first house and hotel, known as the Hotel Shandon, which he later rented to George Hopper. Later on he bought another eighty acres across from Shandon, and there sunk artesian wells and planted the first fields of alfalfa seen in the neighborhood. Solomon Worden and his excellent wife, who before her marriage was Clara Schelenger, a native of Illinois, are both living, enjoying the sea breezes at Long Beach. With them is one of their sons, Ray, while another, Clyde, lives at Creston.

Brought up at Shandon, then known as Shandon City, until he was four years of age, Guy Worden later attended the public school in the neighborhood, and finally graduated from the San Luis Obispo Polytechnic School. He then took to farming at Annette, tilling the soil on rather a large scale, using a big team and raising superior grain. When the elder Worden first experimented with alfalfa, Guy was his main helper and adviser and assisted him in sowing the first alfalfa seed. In time Guy's operations involved his

rental of no less than eight hundred acres, and few ranches were more attractive to the eye, or more satisfactory when it came to harvesting crops.

In 1915, Guy returned to Shandon, became proprietor of the Shandon Hotel, and took charge of his father's farm. He went in for alfalfa and hog-raising, as well as sowing to grain, and had some very choice Berkshire and Duroc swine. He sunk two artesian wells, one on the north side and the other on the south, and before long had one of the best-irrigated ranches in the neighborhood.

In just the town for such a festal occasion, that is, in old San Luis Obispo, Guy Worden was married to Miss Minnie McCaudless, a native of Pleyto, Monterey county, who had been a teacher since her graduation from the Hollister Academy; and two children have blessed this marriage: Margaret Catherine and Guy McCaudless.

**FREDERICK WILLIAM WEIR.**—There are in all communities men who have lived a life of usefulness, using of their energy and best efforts for the upbuilding of the community, and turning their influence towards the moral uplift of its citizens. Such a man is Frederick W. Weir, an old-timer of Estrella, San Luis Obispo County. He was born near St. Louis, in St. Louis county, Mo., September 26, 1864, the son of Peter Weir, a native of Germany, who came to the United States and was for a time engaged in farming near St. Louis. In 1883 Peter Weir came to California, where he homesteaded one hundred twenty acres at Estrella, which he still owns. He is now retired from active life, though still hale and hearty at the age of eighty-seven years. His wife was Catherine Stroh, who died in 1891.

Frederick Weir received a good education in the public schools of St. Louis county, Mo. On coming to Estrella, San Luis Obispo County, in August, 1883, he began farming and, in 1885, as soon as he was of age, preempted one hundred sixty acres of his present ranch, fulfilling the requirements of the law and paying one dollar twenty-five cents an acre, thus obtaining a deed. He improved it well with a residence and other buildings; and still later he purchased one hundred sixty acres adjoining, and now has three hundred twenty acres in one body, all tillable land, devoted to grain-raising.

Mr. Weir was married at Estrella to Miss Emma Morris, born in Texas, who came to this region with her parents in 1887; and five children have been born of this union, as follows: Carl, who died at two years of age; Frances; Vera, Mrs. Frank Kuhnle; Thomas, who died at the age of five weeks; and Myrtle.

Enterprising and public-spirited, Mr. Weir has served acceptably as road-overseer of Road District No. 2, for seven years; for more than twenty years he was school trustee in Pleasant Valley district, most of the time as clerk of the board; and he also served as constable from 1886 to 1890, in Estrella, of Paso Robles Hot Springs judicial township, under Judge William R. Cooley. A leader in the upbuilding of all educational enterprises, he is a true-blue Republican, and is a Lutheran in religious belief.

**JOHN CHARLES M. KRUMLINDE.**—An old resident of California, and a man who is well esteemed and highly respected, Charles Krumlinde was born in Oldenburg, Holstein, Germany, June 15, 1844, the son of Mathias and Margaret (Schroeder) Krumlinde. The father was a weaver, and died in 1847, leaving a widow and two sons, Charles and Henry, of whom Charles alone survives.

Charles Krumlinde received his education in the public schools of Germany. When seventeen years of age, he went to sea in the brig "Mary Elizabeth," engaged in the coasting trade; afterwards in a Holland sailing vessel around Cape Horn to Valparaiso, and return; and then in a sailer out of Belgium, a second trip to Valparaiso, this time returning to New York, where he joined the American ship "Dreadnaught," bound for California. He landed in San Francisco on September 2, 1864, and determined to quit the sea and remain in California. He found employment on farms in Half Moon Bay, and later leased land until 1886, when, having heard, through M. E. E. Krumlinde, of government land that could be homesteaded, he came to San Luis Obispo County and on his arrival located his present place of one hundred sixty acres, which he improved from the first furrow. Later on he leased other land, at one time operating one hundred sixty acres devoted to grain- and stock-raising. Some time ago, however, he gave up farming on a large scale, and now works only his home ranch.

Mr. Krumlinde was first married in Half Moon Bay, where he was united with Mary Meckel. She was born in Ireland, and died in Half Moon Bay. Of this union there were four children: James, who resides in San Francisco; John, who was accidentally killed while mining in Arizona; Lizzie, Mrs. Olney of San Francisco; and Nellie, Mrs. Compton of Oakland. His second marriage also took place in Half Moon Bay, by which he was wedded to Miss Mary Kirwin, a native of Dublin, Ireland, who came to California in 1867, and died on September 2, 1916, leaving him four children. William is a farmer near home. Katherine attended the San Jose State Normal School and is now teaching at Parkfield. Rose, a graduate of the San Jose State Normal, class of 1912, is a teacher at the Estrella school. Isabelle, also a graduate of the San Jose State Normal, class of 1915, is teaching the school in Keys cañon.

Mr. Krumlinde was trustee of the Ellis school district for eleven years. He is an Independent Democrat in politics.

**WILLIAM K. HUDSON.**—An experienced dairyman, an enthusiastic poultry raiser, and a native son who well represents San Luis Obispo, the county of his adoption, is William K. Hudson, who was born at St. Helena, Napa county, on September 20, 1866, the son of Andrew J. Hudson, a pioneer, who crossed the plains in 1845, and whose sketch appears elsewhere in this work.

William K. Hudson was less than three years old when his parents came to this county, and about ten years old when they settled at Willow Creek. He attended the public schools at Oakdale and Asuncion, but from a lad worked on a farm; and much earlier than most boys he satisfied his ambition to drive a "big team." There he also learned stock-raising and dairying; and with exceptional filial devotion he remained at home until he was nearly thirty years of age. When he did start out for himself, he teamed for a while at San Luis Obispo for the Polytechnic School, after which he was employed by the P. I. Co. in their lumber yard. Then he returned to Templeton.

On his father's death, in 1907, William K. Hudson and his brother, Harry, conducted the home farm for a year; and when they dissolved partnership, he undertook carpentering. He later leased a ranch three miles southwest of the town, which he retained six years, farming and dairying. In July, 1916, he bought the farm of twenty-nine acres which he now owns, on the Salinas

river opposite Templeton, where he has an electric pumping plant affording an excellent irrigation system for his alfalfa lands; a dairy of fifteen cows, in connection with which he operates a separator; and all the equipment necessary for the raising of poultry, sheep and cattle. His white Leghorns and bronze turkeys are now a widely known specialty.

In the famous old Mission town of San Luis Obispo, William K. Hudson was married to Miss Evangeline Kemp, a native of Cecil county, Md., and a teacher there, who later removed to California. Here Mrs. Hudson has been active in Episcopalian circles, while Mr. Hudson is a member of the Presbyterian Church. One child, Elenore Evangeline, has been born to them. A Democrat in national politics, and independent in local issues, Mr. Hudson has shown his public-spiritedness by unselfish service as a school trustee for Oakdale district.

**PATRICK FOLEY.**—One of the old settlers of San Luis Obispo County, and particularly of the vicinity where he resides, Patrick Foley was born in county Galway, Ireland, August 31, 1851, the son of Austin and Margaret (Flaherty) Foley, farmers on their native heath. From a lad Patrick was brought up on the farm, and was educated in the public schools of his native place. He was the eldest of a family of seven children, and the first to emigrate to the United States.

Coming to Boston, Mass., in 1869, when eighteen years of age, he was employed there until 1874, when he migrated to the West. Making his way to Virginia City, Nev., he entered the service of the Virginia and Truckee Railroad, continuing with them until September, 1877. He then came to San Luis Obispo County, where he had an uncle, Coleman Flaherty, a pioneer settler of Hog cañon, for whom he worked three years, and then located a pre-emption of one hundred sixty acres in the same vicinity. This he improved, meeting the requirements of the law, and obtained a title. After this, he homesteaded one hundred sixty acres adjoining, where he built his residence and farm buildings, and engaged in grain-growing and cattle-raising, in which he met with deserved success. As he prospered, he bought more land, and now owns eight hundred acres in a body, lying on the Monterey and San Luis Obispo county line. Since 1898 he has also been leasing the Coleman Flaherty place of four hundred forty acres, where he makes his headquarters. Thus, he operates over 1200 acres in all.

The marriage of Mr. Foley occurred in San Francisco, where he was united with Mary Clancy, a native daughter, of whom he was bereaved in January, 1917. She left one son, Austin, who assists his father in his farming operations.

A man who has proved his worth by his enterprise, Mr. Foley is highly esteemed by all who know him. As a trustee in the Ellis school district, he gives his aid to the cause of education in his community. In politics he is a Republican, and a firm believer in protection for Americans.

**LAZARO SILVERS GARCIA.**—A man who is highly esteemed for his integrity and honesty of purpose, and who is making a success at farming by the most modern methods, is Lazaro Silvers Garcia, a native son born in the city of San Luis Obispo, May 11, 1873. His parents, Guadalupe and Jasusita (Silvers) Garcia, were natives of Sonora, Mexico, and emigrated to San Luis Obispo in 1868. In 1877 they homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in Rocky cañon, five miles above what is now Santa Margarita. This property they improved and earned for many years when they sold it and

moved to Santa Margarita. There the father died in 1910, at the age of sixty-seven years; while the mother is living at the old home. Of their six children, five are living, Lazaro being the youngest. From the age of four years, Lazaro was brought up on the farm in the vicinity of Santa Margarita, obtaining his education in the public schools; and he remained at home, helping his parents on the farm, until he was married.

The marriage of Lazaro Silvers Garcia occurred in the old Mission city of San Luis Obispo, December 12, 1897, when he was united with Miss Polonia Flores. She was born at Pozo, San Luis Obispo County, the daughter of Ignacio and Ramona (Reyes) Flores, natives of Mexico, who migrated from their native land to San Luis Obispo County, where the father was engaged in mining at Pozo until he died. His widow now resides at Nipomo. They were the parents of fifteen children, seven of whom are living, Mrs. Garcia being the eldest. She attended the public schools in her native locality, and also in San Luis Obispo.

After their marriage, the Garcias began farming. Mr. Garcia operated his father's place as well as about six hundred acres of the Murphy ranch for a number of years, and then moved to Santa Margarita. Here he purchased his present residence, which he has since made his home. He followed teaming for some years until he again decided to farm, for which purpose, in 1910, he leased six hundred acres of the Santa Margarita ranch, adjoining the town. This he operated with three big teams until he purchased a thirty-horse caterpillar, with which he does his plowing, seeding, and harrowing, harvesting the grain with a large combined harvester and hauling the grain to the warehouse with the caterpillar engine. He finds this method very satisfactory, and is enthusiastic in the use of the most modern machinery. Mr. Garcia sows about five hundred acres to wheat and barley, each year, and is making a financial success of his farming operations.

Mr. and Mrs. Garcia have nine children living. Peter and Robert are assisting their father with the farm work. The others are Ramona, Juanita, Cecelia, Frank, Libbie, Fermina, and Frances. Mr. Garcia has always been interested in the cause of education, and in the establishing of good schools, and is serving his second term as a member of the Santa Margarita board of school trustees. During his term of office, the new grammar school has been built at a cost of \$16,700; and it is one of the finest grammar-school buildings in the county. Politically, he is an ardent supporter of the principles of the Republican party.

**JOHN GUY.**—John Guy is well and favorably known in Santa Margarita, where he is proprietor of the meat market and is doing a creditable and successful business. He was born at Peoria, Polk county, Ia., August 8, 1873. His father, also named John, was a farmer, who died when his two sons, John and Albert, now residing in Los Angeles, were small children. The mother was in maidenhood Lucy Swarms. She was married a second time, to John Merrihew, and with him emigrated to California with the two children in 1885, locating at Elsinore. Here John went to work on nearby ranches, helping to support the family.

After he had grown up, Mr. Guy was employed in the Good Hope mine, continuing there for seven years. He then came to Riverside, in the employ of J. C. Stege, the old butcher of that place, and under him learned the butchering business, after which he worked at his trade in various places in Southern California.



In 1905 he came to San Luis Obispo County and engaged in teaming at Oilport for twenty-two months, from the time it was started until it was closed. He then purchased a ranch of three hundred twenty acres in Calf cañon, seven miles from Santa Margarita, where he raised stock until 1916, when he moved to Santa Margarita and started his present butcher business, in which he is meeting with deserved success.

The marriage of John Guy occurred in Riverside, where he was united with Miss Dolly Praster, a native of Kansas. To Mr. and Mrs. Guy six children have been born, as follows: Marvel, Mrs. Haber-Kern of La Panza; Lester, who is assisting his father in business; Angie, Mrs. Simpson of Santa Margarita; and Kenney, Helen, and John. In politics, Mr. Guy is a true-blue Republican.

**THOMAS H. ROUGEOT.**—Among the men who have achieved success and a competency in the business of farming and stock-raising in the vicinity of San Miguel, we find Thomas H. Rougeot, owner of a large ranch in Echo cañon, just north of the San Luis Obispo County line in Monterey county. He is a York State man, having been born near Rome, Oneida county, May 2, 1864. His father, Cadet T. Rougeot, was born in France and came with Noel Rougeot, his father, to New York, where he became a builder and farmer, passing away in 1876 at the age of forty-eight years. Mr. Rougeot's mother was Sarah Cooley, who was born in Ireland and died at Rome, aged seventy-five years.

Thomas H. Rougeot is the second youngest of a family of six children. He grew up in Oneida county, where he had the advantages of the public schools until eighteen years of age, when he determined to cast in his lot with the Western country. So in 1882 we find him in Colorado, where he remained for a period of six years, spending most of his time lumbering in Jefferson county. In 1888 he came to Estrella, San Luis Obispo County, rented land, and began farming on a very small scale, gradually obtaining a footing and a good farming outfit. In 1895 he leased land at the head of Keys cañon, where he farmed until 1901. He then purchased his first one hundred sixty acres of land, which is located in Echo cañon and is the nucleus of his present large ranch. He purchased land adjoining; and soon discovering that a large acreage was required for successful cattle raising, he continued adding to his holdings until now he has 2,600 acres in a body. Here he set out an orchard and built a residence and suitable barns for storing hay and grain, and for sheltering his stock. He has been raising Shorthorn Durham cattle, as well as fine mules, being the owner of a well-bred Kentucky jack. He has just begun the breeding and raising of jacks, and for the purpose has shipped to his ranch thirty jennies from Missouri, all well-bred animals.

Among the early settlers of Echo cañon were Josephus Shuey and his wife, who was in maidenhood Sarah Newland. They were born in Adams county, Ill., and Montgomery county, Pa., respectively, and were married in Illinois. In 1859 they crossed the plains with ox teams to California, locating in the San Ramon valley, Contra Costa county, where they farmed until 1885, when they homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in Echo cañon, Monterey county, being among the first settlers of this region. Mr. Shuey died in 1894. Mr. and Mrs. Shuey had six children. Their youngest daughter, Ida M., was born in San Ramon valley. She became acquainted with Thomas H. Rougeot, an acquaintance that ripened into love; and they were married at the Shuey home in Echo cañon, on December 14, 1891. Of this



union have been born seven children, as follows: Sarah May, the wife of Otto E. Dauth, a farmer and stockman of their vicinity; Frank H., a farmer on Turkey flat; and Ada Luella, Clarence Theodore, Ray A., Fay E. and Wilma Adell. Mrs. Shuey now makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Rougeot, where she is held in loving esteem and reverence.

Mr. Rougeot made a trip back to his old home in 1898 with his wife and their two children, visiting his relatives and old friends; and on his return he was more than ever favorably impressed with his adopted state.

Mr. Rougeot is very enterprising and progressive. When he located here there was no county road through to San Miguel; so Mr. Rougeot, with H. H. Russell, represented the project before the supervisors and succeeded in getting them to establish the county road. They also worked for a star-route mail service, so that now the mail is delivered to the farmers along the road. He was one of the first to start the organization of the Interurban Telephone Co., of which he was president for four years, and to which he gave much of his time until it was completed, thus placing telephones in the farmers' homes in his locality. He has served as trustee of Ellis school district, a position Mrs. Rougeot is now filling. Fraternally, he was made a Mason in San Miguel Lodge, No. 285, F. & A. M., of which he is Junior Warden; and he is also a member of Nacimiento Lodge, No. 340, I. O. O. F.

Mr. Rougeot and his estimable wife are very hospitable; and they have a host of friends, who admire them for their many good qualities and their kindness of heart.

**WILLIAM T. PIPPIN.** One of the old settlers and enterprising farmers near Pozo, William T. Pippin was born near New Cambria, Macon county, Mo., February 9, 1855. His father, Joseph Pippin, a farmer, died in Missouri in January, 1861. The mother of our subject was Mary Lingo, a native of Randolph county, Mo., and a sister of George W. Lingo, a forty-niner, now living in Santa Margarita, who is represented on another page in this work. After Joseph Pippin's death, his widow was married a second time, to Thomas Epperly. The family all came to California in 1870, spending three years at Morro, whence Mr. and Mrs. Epperly removed to Arizona, where they remained five years. They then spent three years in Texas, and four years in Washington, after which they located in Josephine county, Ore., where they resided until their death.

William T. Pippin was the second eldest of the three children born of the union of Joseph and Mary (Lingo) Pippin. He was brought up in Missouri until the age of fifteen years, when he came to California with his father's family. From a lad of seven years he had to drive a team on the farm, because the men of the family were in the war. So he continued to help his mother, receiving such education as the local schools afforded.

On coming to California in 1870, he worked for a time at farming and dairying. In 1873 he drove a six-horse team to Prescott, Ariz., where he located his mother, and then returned to San Luis Obispo County. Soon afterwards he leased a ranch on the Chorro, where he ran a dairy. It was a hard winter, and a year's work found him in debt four hundred dollars. He then went to work for wages until all his indebtedness was paid. In 1876 he became foreman of the Summers ranch at Pozo, and a year later went to San Mateo, where he followed ranching for over a year, when he returned to Pozo.

In 1879, at Lodi, occurred the marriage of William T. Pippin and Miss Lizzie L. Epperly. She was born in Chariton, Mo., and came with her father, Solomon Epperly, across the plains to California in 1849.

In 1880, Mr. Pippin leased a ranch on the Salinas river, near Pozo; and in 1881 he homesteaded one hundred sixty acres, his present home ranch on the Salinas river, one and three-quarters miles north of Pozo. He cleared the land, broke the first furrow, and made all the improvements. He built a rude house, and afterwards a new and larger residence. This was burned, and he then built the third house. He bought more land, and has now five hundred eighty acres in two ranches, and two sets of farm buildings. Here he engages in raising cattle and in buying and dealing in stock, for which his ranches produce sufficient grain and hay. Riverside Ranch, as his place is known, is well named, as it lies along the Salinas river. It is an exceedingly good stock ranch.

Mr. Pippin's wife died in 1886. Later, he was married a second time, in San Luis Obispo, where he was united with Miss Mary Clausen, born near that city, the daughter of Rasmus Clausen, a farmer in this county, now deceased.

Mr. Pippin is an active member of the board of trustees of New school district. Politically, he is a Democrat.

**GEORGE A. PHILBRICK.** George A. Philbrick was born near Coopers Mills, Lincoln county, Me., January 25, 1869. On both the paternal and the maternal side, he comes of an old and prominent New England family. His father, George W., was a shipbuilder, and also followed lumbering and farming. In the fifties he made his first trip to California, and a second trip in 1862. In 1874 he brought his family to Arroyo Grande, where for a time he farmed. Then, in partnership with his brother, he engaged in blacksmithing in San Luis Obispo from 1876 to 1878. From this time on he was a farmer near San Jose, until his death. The mother, Lydia Noyes, died in Santa Barbara county. Of their nine children, four grew up, three of whom are now living, George A. being the second oldest.

From four years past, George A. Philbrick was raised in California, and educated in its public schools. When fifteen years of age, he began learning the blacksmith trade under his father and his uncle, Radomanthus Philbrick. After mastering his trade, he continued to work at it, coming to Pozo in September of 1890.

While employed at his trade in Pozo, Mr. Philbrick met Miss Margaret Nohl, and the acquaintance culminated in their marriage in San Luis Obispo, in December, 1899. Miss Nohl was born in San Francisco, the daughter of Eugene W. and Margaret (Dick) Nohl, natives of Germany and Scotland, respectively. The father was a stationary engineer, who came out to California and was employed in the mint. In December, 1882, he came to the vicinity of Pozo, where he was a farmer, later purchasing the blacksmith shop in Pozo. The last seven years of his life were spent as chief deputy county assessor, under Charles King, from 1901 until his death, in Pozo, where the mother still resides. Two children, Cora E. and George A., have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Philbrick.

In 1900, Mr. Philbrick purchased a ranch of thirty acres one and a half miles east of Orcutt and, in connection with farming, built and ran a shop there until 1908, when he returned to Pozo and purchased the blacksmith shop from the Nohl estate. Here he has since continued in business, meeting

with success, and the increase in the amount of work at his shop has necessitated the building of a garage, so that he is now equipped to repair everything in the line of machinery.

Mrs. Philbrick, seeing an opportunity for a mercantile establishment, put up a store building, and engages in general merchandising. She is also serving as postmistress at Pozo.

The cause of education has always received the hearty support of Mr. Philbrick. He served about nine years as a member of the board of trustees of the Pine Grove district, in the Santa Maria valley. Fraternally, he is a member of Santa Maria Lodge, No. 302, I. O. O. F., of which he is Past Grand.

**CAROL H. STONE.**—A young man who is proving the value of preparation and the study of scientific methods for successful farming. Carol H. Stone was born in Santa Barbara, Cal., December 25, 1891. His father, Alfred Stone, was born in Tunbridge Wells, England, a builder by trade. On coming to San Francisco, over thirty years ago, he engaged in contracting and building, and soon afterwards came to Santa Barbara, where he also followed his trade. He is now retired. Carol's mother, Lucy Hansard, was born in Boston, England. Of her four children, Carol is the youngest.

Carol H. Stone was educated in the Santa Barbara grammar and high schools, from which he graduated in 1910. Having always been interested in farming and stock-raising, he then entered the California Polytechnic School in San Luis Obispo, taking a special course in preparation for that occupation. For a time thereafter he was employed on the Bishop ranch, at Goleta, and then worked for the San Joaquin Land & Cattle Co., on the Chowchilla rancho, as assistant to the superintendent.

In 1915 he entered into his present partnership, under the name of Smith & Stone, and came to Cañada Verde rancho, near Pozo, since which time he has been the manager of the ranch, devoting all of his time to making a success of dairying and stock-raising. The ranch comprises 1,300 acres, located on the Salinas river, and is a splendid stock ranch. It has seventy-five acres of alfalfa, irrigated by the use of a pumping plant. Aside from the dairy of sixty-five cows, the ranch is devoted to raising cattle and hogs, and produces sufficient grain and hay for the stock.

Through his careful study, close application, and energy, Mr. Stone is making a success. He is well and favorably known, and is a highly esteemed young man. In national politics, he is a Progressive Republican.

**ESKEL E. MEYER.**—A very enterprising and progressive man, who is making a study, and a success, of grain-raising, is Eskel E. Meyer, a native of Sweden, born in Westmanland, September 13, 1866, but reared in Dalene. He is the son of Peter and Hedvig (Hultin) Meyer. The father migrated to Trenton, N. J., in 1882, with his wife and two children, Eskel and John. The latter died on their arrival in New Jersey. Peter Meyer was a forgerman in Trenton, and later at Mont Alto, Franklin county, Pa. After Eskel Meyer came to the Coast, his parents joined their son in California, and are now making their home with him here.

Eskel Meyer received a good education in the public schools of his native country, where he pursued his studies until, at fifteen years of age, he migrated to Trenton, N. J., with his parents, and there went to work in the iron works, learning the trade of forgerman under his father. Later, he followed his trade at Mont Alto, Pa., until he came to San Francisco in 1888.

There he found employment on the old Sixth street car line. He was both driver and conductor on the old horse-car line. After two years at this occupation, desiring to engage in farming, he purchased fifty-two acres across the Salinas river from Atascadero, and immediately located on it. Making his headquarters here, he also leased land on a part of the Patrick Murphy ranch at Atascadero, broke new land there, and raised some of the first crops. After nine years, the place was sold to Mr. Henry, and Eskel leased from the latter for ten years, becoming well posted on the quality of land and soil on the large ranch. When the ranch was finally sold, in 1913, he leased a part of the Santa Margarita ranch, where he raises about three hundred acres of barley and wheat each year, using two big teams for putting in the crop, and a Deering combined harvester to harvest it.

The marriage of Mr. Meyer occurred in Berkeley, uniting him with Miss Anna Bjork, who was also born in Sweden, and who came to California when a young lady. They are both members of the Swedish Lutheran Church at Templeton.

Mr. Meyer is interested in educational matters, and has served as trustee in Eureka district. He is well and favorably known, and is much esteemed by all who know him, for his worth and integrity of purpose.

**WILLIAM DALTON WIMMER.**—William Dalton Wimmer comes of an old and historic family in California. His grandfather, Peter Wimmer, crossed the plains to California in 1845. He was working on the mill-race at Sutter's mill and, while walking along with Mr. Marshall, in the water, picked up the first piece of gold found in California and handed it to Marshall. Grandmother Wimmer tested it for gold, in her way, by boiling it in a kettle of soap; and she kept it until her dying day. However, as a matter of history, Mr. Marshall received the credit for the discovery of the nugget, though in fact Peter Wimmer picked it up. For a time Peter Wimmer followed mining, but afterwards gave it up to follow the more certain business of agriculture, finally locating on Santa Rosa creek, in San Luis Obispo County, and afterwards retiring to San Diego, where his wife died. He then returned to this county, and died on Old creek.

The father of William Dalton was Franklin Wimmer, who was born in Sutter county, in 1846; and according to the best obtainable records, he was the second white child born in California. He became a cattleman in San Luis Obispo County, residing at the head of Santa Rosa creek, where he died in 1874. His wife was Ethella Bailey, who was born in Wisconsin, the daughter of William Bailey, also an early settler of California. She died in 1892. The two children born of this union are William Dalton and J. W., who is a rancher on Tempior Mountain.

William Dalton Wimmer was born in Los Osos valley, San Luis Obispo County, July 10, 1872, and was educated in the public schools on the coast. After assisting his mother at farming until her death, he then farmed for a year with grandfather Bailey on the Estrella plains.

Mr. Wimmer was married at the home of the late William H. Tuley, on the Estrella plains, where he was united with Miss Mildred Tuley, who was born near San Luis Obispo. The life of her father, William H. Tuley, is outlined elsewhere in this work.

After his marriage, Mr. Wimmer leased land on the Estrella till 1901, and then removed to the Newhall ranch near Santa Maria, where he farmed for nine years, raising barley and beans. After this he farmed for two years

more in the valley, and then moved to the Huasna. Here he ran hogs and cattle for three years, when he sold his stock and outfit.

In November, 1915, Mr. Wimmer located at Pozo, and bought his present dairy, leasing the place of eight hundred acres, where he milks a herd of from fifty to seventy-five cows, separating the cream, which he ships to San Francisco. He is also raising beef cattle and hogs, and for that purpose leases 2,000 acres of range land six miles from his dairy, where he runs his cattle. His dairy herd are Holsteins, at the head of which he has full-blooded animals. His hogs are of the Berkshire and Duroc Jersey strains. Laguna Ranch, as the place is called, is a beautiful place with a natural lake. It is a splendid stock ranch, having alfalfa fields and a pumping plant, and ample acreage for raising grain and hay for the stock on the place.

Mr. and Mrs. Wimmer have five children, Gladys (Mrs. Cooper), Wesley, Mildred, Darrel, and Virgil, of whom the parents are justly proud, and to whom they are giving a good education.

Mr. Wimmer has always been interested in the cause of education, and in having good schools for the children. He has served as trustee of the Huasna district, and is now trustee of the Pozo district. Fraternally, he is a member of the San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 322, B. P. O. E., and of the Santa Maria Lodge, No. 90, K. of P. Politically, he is a Democrat.

**PATRICK DOYLE.** Among the men who achieved success in farming and business circles was the late Patrick Doyle, born in county Wicklow, Ireland, in 1833, who came when a child with his parents to Alton, Ill., where he was reared and educated. As a lad he learned farming, and followed it after attaining his majority.

In St. Louis, Mo., January 7, 1871, Patrick Doyle was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Keough, a native of St. Louis, where she received her education in the public schools and convent. In November of 1872, the young couple came to Butte county, Cal., and, being practically without funds, began at the bottom. Leasing land on the Guerke grant, he farmed for five years. Then, wishing to enlarge his business, he leased over 6,000 acres of the Finnell ranch in Tehama county, where he was very successful for a period of six years, having accumulated a large outfit of mule teams, with a full complement of the latest improved farm machinery. This he sold at a large public sale, and removed to Dixon, where he purchased one hundred sixty acres and engaged in farming. However, this did not prove a success, and he lost nearly all he had previously made. So, with the remnant, he moved to San Luis Obispo County, about 1887, leased a part of the Huntington ranch near Paso Robles, and again began grain-raising. As he made money, he branched out and farmed on a larger scale. He purchased land from the Eureka ranch, and also the Ysobel rancho, becoming owner of five hundred acres of the latter, and of 1,000 acres of the former. He also leased some 6,000 acres adjoining, and raised grain on an extensive scale. One year he delivered 25,000 sacks of grain to the warehouses in Paso Robles, which he sold for seventy-five cents per cental. In spite of the low prices, he made money by his method of farming, for he was a first-class agriculturist, modern and advanced in his methods. He was the first man to summer-fallow, a method that was ridiculed by the people of the vicinity. However, he demonstrated that it was a success, and it is now a universally accepted method in grain-raising. He managed his grain-farming operations so well that in eleven years he cleared up over \$100,000. He purchased the Doyle block on

the corner of Pine and Thirteenth streets, in Paso Robles, and a year later started a hardware business in the corner store. Continuing in business for a few years, he then sold out to Mr. Bell, after which he retired to Paso Robles, in the enjoyment of his competence, where he kept a couple of fancy drivers.

Mr. Doyle died on January 23, 1907, aged seventy-four years. He was a man of broad ideas, large-hearted and liberal, highly esteemed and loved by all who knew him, who, with a wealth of meaning, familiarly referred to him as Pat Doyle. Mr. and Mrs. Doyle had one child, Georgia, Mrs. Strom of San Francisco.

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Doyle continued to reside in Paso Robles until she moved to San Francisco, where she purchased her present residence at 1365 Vallejo street. From her home in San Francisco she looks after her varied interests in San Luis Obispo County and other places. She is intensely interested in San Luis Obispo County, and is very optimistic for its future development and greatness. Being well posted on its soil, products, and climate, she firmly believes that it has greater advantages to offer the individual than any other county in California.

Mrs. Doyle is a consistent member of St. Bridget's Catholic Church, San Francisco, as well as of its sodalities. She is liberal, enterprising and progressive, and believes in building up the communities where she resides; and she is always willing to give of her time and means towards any worthy object that has for its aim the advancement and growth of the state, and the enhancing of the comfort and the pleasures of its people.

**FRANK CLINK.**—Among the native sons who are making a success in dairying and stock-raising, is Frank Clink, who was born near Stockton, San Joaquin county, July 6, 1870. His father was David Livingston Clink, who was born in Ontario, Canada, became a pioneer of California, and died when Frank was a lad. His mother was Rachael Harris, a native of Indiana, who crossed the plains in 1852 with her parents, and now resides in San Luis Obispo. Frank's maternal grandfather, Dr. A. Harris, is represented in this work in the sketch of Mrs. Charles Carson.

Frank Clink came to San Luis Obispo County when a child, in 1872, living near Cayucos, and later on his grandfather Harris' farm in Adelaida, where he received his education in the public schools, meanwhile learning farming and the care of domestic animals from Dr. Harris, who was a veterinary surgeon of much ability. He remained with his grandfather till seventeen years of age, when he proceeded to Los Mamos valley, Santa Barbara county, where he was employed at ranching for a period of three years. He then came to the Eagle ranch, San Luis Obispo County, and worked at horticulture for about two years.

Having become acquainted with Miss Fidelia Langlois, an attachment sprang up which culminated in their marriage at Morro. She was born in Sonoma county, Cal. Her parents came from the Isle of Guernsey, and were pioneer settlers of Sonoma county.

After his marriage, Mr. Clink followed truck farming on Morro creek for five years; and then, on account of his health, he removed to Arizona and, having learned the blacksmith trade under his father-in-law, William Langlois, he started a blacksmith shop at Buckeye, Ariz., and plied his trade for a year. His health returning, he came back to San Luis Obispo County and

started a blacksmith shop at Templeton, which he ran from the spring of 1900 until the fall of 1902, when he sold it to engage in stock-raising. For this purpose he leased the James Taylor ranch near Klam, and raised cattle for two years. He then leased the lower Langlois ranch, where he ran a dairy and raised beans for six years.

In 1909 he bought the Loscano place adjoining Pozo, on which he located with his family. This he improved, sowing twenty acres to alfalfa, and followed dairying until he sold the property at a good big profit. Next he purchased eighty acres in Madera county, and for a year ran a dairy. Then selling out, he returned to Pozo and leased the Sinsheimer Koshlau ranch of eight hundred acres on Bear creek, which he is devoting to dairying. He has fifty well-selected cows in his dairy herd, and the cream is separated and shipped to San Francisco. Mr. Clink is one of the largest, and also one of the most enterprising, dairymen in the Pozo country.

On November 1, 1910, Mr. Clink was bereaved of his beloved wife. She left him four children, as follows: William A., foreman of the James Goodwin ranch; and Walter L., Frances J., and Kenneth L., who are still at home.

Mr. Clink has always taken an active interest in the cause of education, and has served as trustee in different districts. He is now serving on the Pozo school board. He is enterprising and progressive, and is deservedly popular and highly esteemed for his integrity and moral worth. Politically, he endorses Republican principles.

**CAPT. FREDERICK J. PETERSON.** Frederick J. Peterson was a descendant of the ancient Norsemen. A man of sturdy strength and rugged appearance, he made his influence felt on both land and sea. He was born on the Danish island of Alsen, January 23, 1838. His native home afterwards became a part of the Kingdom of Prussia.

As a young man, Mr. Peterson followed the sea, the same as his ancestors, and continued in that vocation for many years. He came to the United States in 1853; and upon attaining his majority, he became an American citizen.

In the year 1857, Mr. Peterson made a voyage to his native land, remaining in Denmark for some six months, when he went to Australia and sailed up and down the Australian coast for some twelve years. During the time Mr. Peterson was in Australia, he also engaged in mining. He was married in 1867 to Miss Susan Adelaide Elliot.

Coming to California in 1869, he gave up seafaring and settled on a ranch of some three hundred acres in Harmony valley, about half-way between Cayucos and Cambria. Here he remained until he moved to the county-seat and purchased the Booker place on Monterey street, one of the finest residences in the county, where he remained until the time of his death, on July 26, 1910.

Although Mr. Peterson was seventy-two years of age, he was a man of strong constitution and enjoyed the best of health until a month before his death, when he suffered an attack of dropsy, which terminated fatally.

Besides a beloved widow, the following sons and daughters were left to mourn their loss: Mrs. Florence Thompson, of San Luis Obispo; Mrs. Lilly E. York, of Templeton; Frederick H. Peterson, of Los Angeles; Mrs. Isabelle Bowden and Mrs. Adelaide Sanders, of San Luis Obispo, and Elliot S. Peter-

Mr. Peterson was a man among men, kindly, gentle, and fearless. He was looked up to and respected by the people as a straightforward, honest business man and a successful farmer.

**HENRY WEIR.**—Henry Weir has been a resident of the Estrella region since the fall of 1883, and is a man who is well posted regarding the resources of this part of San Luis Obispo County. He was born in St. Louis county, Mo., February 28, 1868. His father, Peter Weir, was born in Germany, and had two brothers, John and Nicholas, who came to California in pioneer days, afterwards locating in San Luis Obispo County, where they resided until their death. Peter Weir located on a farm near St. Louis, Mo., where he was married to Catherina Stroh, also of German birth. In the fall of 1883 he brought his wife and family of six children to Estrella, this county, where his brothers were living. He homesteaded one hundred twenty acres adjoining Estrella, and there his wife died over twenty-five years ago. He now makes his home with his son, Henry. The six children of Peter and Catherina Weir were as follows: Fred W., a farmer at Estrella; John, deceased; Henry, the subject of this review; Christ, deceased; George, foreman of the tank farm for the Producers Transportation Co. at San Luis Obispo; and Casper, a machinist in San Luis Obispo.

Henry Weir came to Estrella when fifteen years of age, and was immediately apprenticed as a blacksmith under Henry Ludeke, in San Luis Obispo, with whom he remained for eighteen months, when Ludeke sold out. Henry then entered the employ of Tom Hennessey, at San Miguel, as a blacksmith. He worked for Mr. Hennessey for over two years, when the business became so slack that there was nothing to do and Mr. Weir decided to take up farming. Returning to Estrella, he leased the present place of three hundred twenty acres, which he has been farming steadily since 1898. On the place he built a blacksmith shop, where he does his own and other work, to accommodate the people of the vicinity. In connection with it he has a well-equipped machine shop, with gas-engine power.

Some years after coming to California, Mr. Weir made a trip back to his old home in Missouri, and there renewed the acquaintance of an old schoolmate, Miss Louise Kleinsmidt; and this resulted in their marriage. She was born near St. Louis, and has made him an excellent wife. Both are well known and highly esteemed. Politically, Mr. Weir is a Republican; in religion he and his wife are Lutherans.

**JOHN HULTQUIST.**—One of the oldest settlers living in the Oakdale district, John Hultquist was born in Smalan, Sweden, May 28, 1854. His father, Isaac Anderson, was a farmer; and from him John learned the rudiments of farming on the home place, meanwhile receiving his education in the public schools. He remained at home, assisting his father, until 1877, when he began for himself. Going to Stockholm, he found employment for a year; and while there he took the name of Hultquist. He then spent two years on railroad construction in Hjenetland, in northern Sweden; but hearing and reading of the greater advantages and better opportunities offered in the New World, he determined to try his fortune in the United States. Landing in New York City on July 2, 1880, he came on west to Marquette, Mich., where he was employed in the lumber woods, as also, afterwards, at Fayette, near Escanaba. In 1882, he removed to Duluth, Minn., then a city of only 3,000 population, finding employment in the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad



shops as a helper to his brother-in-law, who was a blacksmith; and here he learned the blacksmith trade.

In December, 1887, he came to California; and having read in the papers of the advantages of buying land in the vicinity of Templeton, he immediately came on, arriving at his destination on January 4, 1888, and purchased thirty-eight acres of his present place on the Adelaida road, seven miles west of Templeton. It was all in timber, and he began to clear the place and improve it with a house and buildings. He bought land adjoining, and now owns one hundred eighty-three and a half acres, with over one hundred acres under cultivation. When he began clearing the land, there was no sale for wood; so he slashed the trees down and burned them. He is now making a success of raising grain, hay and stock.

Mr. Hultquist was first married, in Templeton, to Miss Mary Swenson, who was born in Sweden. She died, leaving him two children: Frank, who resides at Orcutt; and Martin, who is assisting his father on the farm. He was married a second time in Oakdale district, September 10, 1892, to Miss Maria Quarnstrom, born in Vermland, Sweden, who came to Minneapolis, Minn., in 1884, with her mother and two brothers, Henry and John. In February, 1887, she came to San Francisco, and in 1892 to Templeton. The present union has been blessed with one child, Josephine.

The family are active members of the Swedish Lutheran Church in Templeton, Mr. Hultquist having been a member of the board of deacons for many years. He helped to build the church, and is now one of the oldest members of the congregation. In politics he believes in the principles of the Republican party. Mr. Hultquist is of a modest and retiring disposition, frank, kind, and open-hearted, and is very liberal and hospitable. The family are very favorably known, and highly respected.

**MARTIN E. E. von DOLLEN.**—A very beneficent and kind-hearted gentleman, Martin E. E. von Dollen was born in Tonning, Schleswig-Holstein, Germany, on February 25, 1841. His father, Marcus, and his forefathers were farmers in Schleswig. His mother was Martha Hern. Both parents passed their days in their native land. Of their seven children, two came to California, Martin, the eldest, and John, the youngest. The latter died in Keys cañon, in February, 1917.

Marcus von Dollen was reared on the farm until sixteen years of age, when, having completed the local schools, he went to sea, serving on the sealer "Geneva," on a seal-hunting voyage to Greenland. During this voyage, he and six companions were out in a small whale-boat, lost in a dense fog for two days and three nights, when they were finally discovered by another sealer, which brought them back to their own ship. Returning to Denmark after six months, he followed the coasting trade in English, French and Russian waters, afterwards sailing on the "Wilhelmina" around Cape Horn to Valparaiso, and thence to Peru and back to Denmark. Next he was on the "Laur Rochelle," on a trip via Good Hope to Australia and return. In 1859 he came around Cape Horn on a sailer to San Francisco; but receiving a letter from his home that his father was ill, he returned to his old home in Denmark. On his arrival, he found that his father had died. Next we find him on the ship "Wilhelmina," sailing for Singapore, India, and for Hong Kong, China, as well as other interesting Chinese ports. He was second mate, and studied navigation, and was ready to take the examination for

first mate; but instead he decided to locate in California, and came on the "New Edd" to San Francisco in the spring of 1864, where he left the vessel. After following mining for a while, he worked on a ranch in Alameda county, but soon started farming for himself in Half Moon Bay, where he afterwards clerked in a mercantile establishment there.

In 1885 he came to San Miguel, locating a homestead of one hundred sixty acres in Hog cañon, where he broke the first furrow and began grain and stock-raising. He leased other lands, operating 2,600 acres in all. He used four big teams, and did a successful business for many years. In 1910 he quit farming on a large scale and sold his place, purchasing his present place of one hundred sixty acres in Pleasant Valley, which he has improved with good, substantial buildings and brought to a high state of cultivation.

Mr. von Dollen was married in San Francisco, on May 25, 1873, to Annie Wartemborg, who was born near Hamburg, Germany, on December 26, 1844, the daughter of Andrew and Meta (Maak) Wartemborg. Mrs. von Dollen came to San Francisco in 1870. Mr. and Mrs. von Dollen have three children: Henry C., of Contra Costa county; George A., a farmer in the Ranchita district; and Annie, Mrs. Arthur Ennis, of Contra Costa county.

Fraternally, Mr. von Dollen is a member of the Redmen in Redwood City. He has been road-overseer for many years, as also trustee of Ranchita school district. In national politics he is a Republican; and in religion he is a Lutheran. He and his wife are much esteemed for their straightforwardness and integrity, and it is the consensus of opinion that his word is as good as his bond.

**JACOB THOMAS TULEY.**—A native son of San Luis Obispo County, Jacob Thomas Tuley was born in the old Mission city of San Luis Obispo on March 2, 1872. He is the son of the late pioneer, William H. Tuley, of whom an extended mention is made on another page in this history.

Jacob Tuley spent his childhood on the Tuley ranch on the Estrella plains. He completed the courses of study in the public schools, after which he took a course in Chestnutwood Business College, in Santa Cruz, where he was graduated in 1892. Returning home, he assisted his father until he reached his majority, when, in partnership with his brother Joseph, he leased land at Bradley. They put in a crop; but it proved a dry year, and the crop was so disappointing that he did not even go back to see it, and lost all he had. He then went to Bakersfield and found employment on the Poso ranch for the Kern County Land Co. at ninety cents, and later one dollar, a day. Saving his money for a year, he returned to his old home and, with his brother, leased his father's place and other lands, and devoted all of his energy to grain-growing.

In 1896, Mr. Tuley was married on the Estrella plains to Miss Jessie Crowfoot, who was born in Wisconsin, the daughter of Josiah and Minnie Crowfoot. Mr. and Mrs. Crowfoot were also early settlers on the Estrella plains, where, as children, Jessie Crowfoot and Jacob Tuley attended the same school together.

In 1900, Mr. Tuley leased his present place of three hundred twenty acres in Pleasant Valley, about eight miles east of San Miguel, also leasing other lands adjoining. As success attended his labors, in 1902 he purchased one hundred sixty acres of the lease, and later bought three hundred twenty-eight acres more; so he owns four hundred eighty-eight acres, all good farming

land and under the plow. He leases other lands also, farming in all about 1,000 acres, which he operates with two ten-horse teams. He raises grain, cattle, horses and mules, and is meeting with merited success.

Three children have been born to Mr. Tuley and his wife: Leona May and William Ray, who are attending the California Polytechnic School in San Luis Obispo, and Merle.

At the age of seventeen, Mr. Tuley became a church member, and is now an active member of the M. E. Church at Estrella, of which he is a trustee and a steward, as well as superintendent of the Sunday school. He is an energetic young man, and gives his support to any movement that helps to build up the community. He is a strong advocate of temperance.

**MRS. CLARA SUSAN GROVE.** A native daughter of California, Mrs. Clara Susan (Morehouse) Grove was born at Healdsburg, Sonoma county, March 28, 1858, her parents being Charles D. and Hulda M. (Lowe) Morehouse, natives of Broome county, N. Y., and Rush county, Ind., respectively. They were married in Indiana, and in 1853 crossed the plains with ox-teams to California. Mr. Morehouse was a stone-mason and builder at Healdsburg. In 1868, they came to the San Luis Obispo section and were engaged in farming in what is now the Summit district until they retired to Paso Robles, where Mr. Morehouse died in 1911, and his wife in 1913. Of their eleven children, Mrs. Grove is the fifth. She came to San Luis Obispo when ten years of age. At that time there were no public schools; so her education was limited principally to study at home.

On November 22, 1871, on Jack creek, this county, she was married to Benjamin Franklin Grove, a native of Quincy, Ill., born in 1845, who came with his parents in 1853 across the plains, locating near Windsor, Sonoma county. Later, B. F. Grove came to San Luis Obispo County, where he farmed, and afterwards homesteaded the one hundred sixty acres in Summit district where Mrs. Grove now resides. This place they improved; and here he died in 1909, having been a faithful member of the Christian Church.

Since the death of her husband, Mrs. Grove has operated the place with the help of her sons, raising hay, cattle and hogs, and running a small dairy. They lease adjoining land and farm about 1,200 acres, their brand being a double D. The place is located about twelve miles west of Paso Robles, and is well watered by springs.

Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Grove there are seven children: Walter Wilmer, who resides at Templeton; Edna, Mrs. Michelsen, also of Templeton; Chester F. and Charles D., of Paso Robles; and Orin C., Lewis E., and Harold O., who are with their mother.

Mrs. Grove is one of the oldest settlers in these parts, and has seen the county change from a wilderness to a land of beautiful farms and homes. She is a devout and earnest member of the Christian Church.

**FRED QUENZER.**—Fred Quenzer was born in Dainback, Baden, Germany, March 18, 1879, the youngest of seven children born to Henry and Catherine (Hollenbach) Quenzer, farmers in that country. After completing the local schools, at the age of fifteen he was apprenticed at the upholsterer's trade; but a year later, in 1895, he came to America, and followed farm work at Mt. Vernon, Ind., until 1897, when he came westward to Halstead, Kans. In 1900 he came on to Santa Clara county, Cal., where he worked at horticulture until 1904. He then moved to Estrella, San Luis Obispo County, and

a year later leased the Joe Moody farm, which he ran for about six years. Having met with encouraging success, he bought the Alexandre place of three hundred twenty acres in Pleasant Valley, one mile north of Estrella, which he still owns. It is a splendid, well-improved ranch, which he devotes to the raising of wheat and barley, and to stock-raising and dairying.

On October 1, 1905, at Estrella, Mr. Quenzer was married to Anna Dyck, who was born in Kraffohlsdorf, West Prussia, Germany, May 29, 1885, the daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Woelke) Dyck. The father died in Germany in 1892, and his widow brought her children to Beatrice, Neb., in 1893. In 1899 they came to Adelaida, San Luis Obispo County, and three years later located in Paso Robles, where Mrs. Quenzer resided until her marriage. The mother now makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Quenzer, where she receives the love and homage due her.

Mr. Quenzer and his wife have five children, Martha, Karl, George, Albert, and Ruth, to whom the parents are giving the best education the district affords.

Mr. and Mrs. Quenzer are liberal and kind-hearted, and are highly esteemed for their integrity of purpose and their moral worth.

**OTTO EDGAR DAUTH.**—A young man who, by his energy and close application, is making a success of farming and stock-raising. Otto Edgar Dauth was born in Lowe cañon, Monterey county, March 23, 1887. His father, Gustav Dauth, was born in Ludvigshavn, Germany, and migrated to Newark, N. J., when he was eighteen years of age. There he afterwards married Francisca Streibinger, who was also born in Germany. In 1886 they came to California, locating in Lowe cañon, Monterey county, just north of the San Luis Obispo County line, where they homesteaded one hundred sixty acres of land. This they improved with good buildings and, making a success, Mr. Dauth bought additional lands, until now he has about eight hundred acres in a body. His wife died in 1892, leaving four children, whom he reared and educated. He is still hale and hearty. The children are: Carl, of Danville, Cal.; Otto E., of this review; Adolph, in the auto truck business in San Francisco; and Emily, who resides with her father.

Otto Edgar Dauth was brought up on the farm, learning the care of cattle as well as the raising of grain and hay. His schooling was obtained in the Vineyard cañon district. In 1905 he entered the employ of Baker & Hamilton, wholesale hardware dealers in San Francisco, as shipping clerk. He continued with this firm until the great fire in 1906, when the entire plant was destroyed. He then returned to the vicinity of San Miguel, and soon found employment with John Work, on whose ranch he remained for a period of four years. For the following two years, he worked for Thos. H. Rougeot. In 1913 he leased the Bennett ranch at the foot of Hog cañon, which he farmed for one year, when he secured the lease of his present place, the Michael Foley ranch of sixteen hundred acres in Hog cañon, which he devotes to growing grain and cattle. About three hundred fifty acres is sown to grain each year, and the balance is used for range. His cattle brand consists of his initials, O. D.

In Echo cañon, August 10, 1913, Mr. Dauth was married to the lady of his choice, Miss Sarah May Rougeot, the eldest daughter of Thomas H. and May (Shuey) Rougeot, whose interesting biography also appears in this work; and one child has blessed their union, a little daughter, Velma Leah.

Fraternally, Mr. Dauth is a member of San Miguel Parlor, No. 150, N. S. G. W. Politically, he is a true-blue Republican, being a strong believer in the principle of protection for Americans. Mr. Dauth is very liberal and enterprising, and has always been willing to give of his time and means, so far as he is able, to any measure that has for its aim the upbuilding of the community and the enhancing of the comfort of its citizens.

**WALTER YORK.**—One of the enterprising and progressive young men of Templeton is Walter York, who was born in Nodaway county, Mo., May 15, 1871. His father, Andrew York, was born in Indiana and removed with his parents to Illinois, where he grew up. When about twenty years of age, Andrew York crossed the plains in an ox-team train to California, and followed mining for three years. He then farmed in Napa county for about three years, and while there was married to Elizabeth Long, who was born in Tennessee, and accompanied her parents across the plains in the early fifties. Returning east via Panama, Andrew York and his wife were on a farm near St. Joseph, Mo., for a few years, and then moved to Texas, and afterwards to Nebraska; but a year later they went to Granby, Newton county, Mo., where the wife died. In 1873 Mr. York brought his five children to Napa county; but the same year he came to San Luis Obispo city, and a year later rented a ranch in the Pecho country for five years. He then bought a ranch on Toro creek, near Cayucos, which he sold five years later. In 1882 he located on the present place. The ranch is beautifully located on top of York Mountain. He cleared it of brush and trees, and set out vineyards, the soil and climate being well adapted to viticulture. He built the Ascension Winery, on York Mountain, which was named for him; and here he resided until his death in December, 1913.

Andrew York was married a second time to Mrs. Hulda Mathews, who was born in Indiana; and she died in 1916. Through his second marriage, Mr. York had two children: Lulu, Mrs. O'Neil, who resides in Ascension district; and Silas, who is a partner of his brother, Walter York, on the York ranch. The five children of the first marriage of Andrew York are as follows: Elizabeth, Mrs. Hazard, who resides on the Pecho; James, who lives in San Luis Obispo; Ida, Mrs. Nelson, of Healdsburg; Thomas, who is mining in Arizona; and Walter, of this review.

Walter York was reared in this county and received his general education in the public schools. He then entered Chestnutwood Business College, from which he was graduated. From a lad he made himself generally useful at home, helping to clear the farm and set out orchards and vineyards. After he reached his majority, he continued in business with his father till 1911, when his brother Silas became his partner and they bought from their father the Ascension Winery. Later, they also bought a ranch of one hundred fifty acres adjoining, and set out more grapes. After their father's death they purchased the home ranch of ninety acres, and they now have over eighty acres in vineyards, making a beautiful sight on the different hills overlooking the valley below. Besides their own vintage, they also buy grapes from other viticulturists, the capacity of their plant being more than 100,000 gallons, the largest in the county.

In Santa Cruz, February 1, 1897, occurred the marriage of Mr. York with Miss Lillie Peterson, a native of California, born near Cambria, the daughter of Capt. Frederick J. Peterson, whose interesting sketch appears on another

page of this work. Mrs. York was educated at Pacific College. She spent several years in educational work, continuing in that profession up to the time of her marriage. To Mr. and Mrs. York have been born five children: Miles, attending San Luis Obispo High School; Wilfrid, attending Templeton High School; and Lillian, Roland and Sidney.

Always interested in building up the community, and particularly in the cause of education and good schools, Mr. York has served twelve years as a trustee of Ascension district, most of the time as clerk of the board. He is a believer in the principles of the Democratic party; and he and his wife are very hospitable and liberal, and are much esteemed by all who know them.

**JAMES ROBERT ANDERSON.**—Born in Sydney, Australia, in 1822. James Robert Anderson is the son of Andrew and Elizabeth Anderson, early pioneers of California, who migrated to Australia from Scotland, their native land. In Australia, Andrew Anderson engaged in sheep-raising, in which he made a marked success, accumulating a cash capital of \$100,000. In 1853, he embarked with his family on the "Julian," but was shipwrecked close to Kanaka Island, where a little daughter was lost. The survivors lived on the island for three months, subsisting on turtles and turtles' eggs. They were taken off by a vessel from San Francisco. When they were landed, the father was without a dollar, the \$100,000 having been lost in the wreck. He went to work in San Francisco, but later moved to a farm near San Jose. Here he lived until he retired to Petaluma, where he and his wife both died. At the time of his death, he was nearly ninety years of age.

Of the six children of his parents' family, James is the youngest. He was reared and educated in Santa Clara county, where he followed farming and horticulture until he removed to Hollister. There he began grain-growing; but after three years of drought he gave it up and located in the Old river section, south of Bakersfield, Kern county, where he was engaged in raising alfalfa for six years, and then left on account of sickness. The doctors gave him up and said he could not live; but he determined to get well, and did. As soon as he was able, he removed to the Palouse and Walla Walla country in Washington. While there, he went through the Indian troubles; and he guided a party out of the country to safety, although they had some narrow escapes.

In 1876, he returned to California and located in San Luis Obispo County. Purchasing a farm on York creek from Andrew York, he resided upon it for three years. He then sold the place and, coming to the Ascension district in 1879, bought his present place of one hundred sixty-three and three-fourths acres from a Mr. Dunn. He cleared the land and set out an orchard and vineyard of twenty acres. He has built a winery with a capacity of 16,000 barrels, and is making a success of farming and viticulture. His place is located on Anderson creek, about seven miles west of Templeton, at the foot of York Mountain, and lies in a beautiful and fertile section of the county.

Mr. Anderson was married in Bakersfield to Miss Lizzie Gray, born in California, a lady of charming personality, and an amiable wife and loving mother, of whom he was bereaved eighteen years ago. She left to him six children: Lizzie, Mrs. Hames, of Templeton; Maggie, Mrs. Swain, of Cayucos; James, a farmer near Templeton; Frank, a graduate of the Pacific Coast Business College, who is assisting his father on the home ranch; Clyde, who resides in Hollister; and John, who is clerking in Bell's store, in Paso Robles.

Mr. Anderson is a member of the reorganized Church of Jesus Christ, Latter-Day Saints, of which denomination his father was a minister. He has traveled all over the Pacific Coast, and is well posted on its geography and its soil and climate. Being one of the oldest settlers in his vicinity, and having a retentive memory, he is a very entertaining conversationalist. Greatly interested in the cause of education, he has been for many years a trustee of schools in the Ascension district. In political affiliations he is a Democrat.

**HORACE GREELEY ILIFF.**—One and one-half miles north of Santa Maria, on the state highway, lie the ranch and comfortable bungalow owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. H. G. Iliff. The land was inherited by Mrs. Iliff from her father, the late Capt. William Powell, a pioneer of the Santa Maria valley. In 1916, Mr. Iliff erected a modern residence on the property; and there, in peace and contentment, the family reside, surrounded by the comforts and many of the luxuries of life.

Mr. Iliff was born in Dawson, Richardson county, Nebr., fourteen miles from Fall City, on March 5, 1871, a son of John Wesley and Nancy (Carroll) Iliff, who lived in Missouri for a time, and later bought land in Richardson county, Nebr., which the father farmed. John Iliff died at Auburn, Nebr., on November 8, 1901, having reared a family of nine children. Two sons came to California, Horace G. and John W., who had a son employed in a bank in San Francisco for a number of years. The name of Iliff was brought to America from England about the time of the Revolutionary War; and two cousins, descended from the progenitor of the family, came west from Ohio, both named John Iliff. One of these settled in Colorado, making Denver his headquarters, and was commonly known as the "Cattle King of Colorado." The other John Iliff, born in Ohio in 1824, was the father of Horace Greeley Iliff.

The boyhood days of Horace G. Iliff were passed at the home in Nebraska, attending the public schools during the winter months and working on the farm in summer, until he was fifteen. At the age of about twelve he could handle a team and plow, and thereafter made himself very useful about the farm; and after he was fifteen, he did a man's work. After the death of his parents, he made his home near Lincoln, Nebr., until he came to California, in 1894, to see his brother, John Wesley, who was living in Santa Barbara county, and who later went to Santa Cruz, where he died, leaving a widow and four children. It was the intention of Mr. Iliff to stay here but a few months; but he became so enamored of the climate and the possibilities of the state that he decided to remain. This decision he has never regretted, for here he has met with a greater degree of success than would likely have been his lot had he returned to the Middle West. He does nearly all the work on the ranch, and in 1916 harvested five hundred sacks of beans and one thousand sacks of potatoes.

In 1895, Mr. Iliff was united in marriage with Miss Ida M. Powell, a daughter of the late Col. W. V. Powell, one of the pioneers of the Santa Maria valley, of whom mention is made on another page of this work. Mrs. Iliff was born in Mendocino county, and was brought to this valley by her parents when a child of six years. She has lived here ever since, witnessing with interest the growth and development of this part of the county. Of the marriage with Mr. Iliff, five children have been born: Eva Mabel, Florence

Fern, Lelia Tressa, Claudie Wesley (who died, aged nine), and Addison Powell.

Mr. Hiff is a Republican in politics. Fraternally, he belongs to the Red Men, acting as musician for the lodge in Santa Maria, where he is well and favorably known. Mrs. Hiff is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In her political belief, she supports the Prohibitionist doctrines. They both are industrious, enjoy farm life, aim to live and let live, and have an ever widening circle of friends throughout the valley.

**EDWARD HENRY FRITZINGER.**—Coming from a prominent old Pennsylvania family who were of good old Quaker stock, Edward Henry Fritzinger was born near Doylestown, Bucks county, Pa., April 28, 1850. The grandfather, Jacob Fritzinger, was descended from an old Pennsylvania family, and was a member of the Society of Friends. Edward's father was Thomas Fritzinger, born in Bucks county, who became a police officer in Philadelphia, where he died, as did also the mother. She was in maidenhood Hannah Hill, also a native of Bucks county. Of their four children, Edward is the only one living.

Mr. Fritzinger received a good education in the public schools of Philadelphia, after which he was apprenticed as a tin and sheet-iron worker. On mastering his trade, he traveled as a journeyman through different Western states, arriving in San Francisco, Cal., in 1885. He continued at his trade there until 1888, and then located in San Luis Obispo County.

In Pleasant Valley, in 1889, Edward H. Fritzinger was united in marriage with Miss Mary Jane Sinclair, who was born near Point Rush, county Antrim, Ireland, the daughter of William and Jennie (Thompson) Sinclair, who came of good old Scotch Covenanter stock. The family emigrated to Saratoga county, N. Y., where the parents died. Mary Sinclair, with her brother Daniel, then removed to Philadelphia, Pa., where lived an aunt, Mrs. Mary Dugan. Daniel Sinclair migrated to California, and located a homestead in Pleasant Valley, where, in 1885, Mary J. Sinclair joined her brother and pre-empted eighty acres, later homesteading one hundred sixty acres adjoining. The young people had been acquainted with Mr. Fritzinger in Philadelphia, and this acquaintance culminated in his marriage with Miss Sinclair when he came to the valley.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Fritzinger improved their ranch of two hundred forty acres with substantial buildings and fences. They devote it to the raising of grain and stock, in which they have been very successful. Both are known for their kindness and hospitality, and are loved and esteemed by all who know them. They are both charter members of the Presbyterian Church at Estrella, of which Mr. Fritzinger is a trustee and elder. Politically, he is an out-and-out Republican.

**WILLIS DODD.**—A native son of the Pacific Coast, Willis Dodd was born near Spokane, Wash., on February 15, 1882. His father, John Dodd, was born in Kentucky; and after his marriage to Amelia Springs, the young couple moved to Tennessee, and afterwards emigrated to California, coming on one of the first transcontinental trains. Homesteading one hundred sixty acres in Plato hills, he improved the land, filling the requirements of the law, and after proving up sold it and removed to Washington, where he engaged in farming until 1890, when he brought his family back to San Luis Obispo County and made his home in Ranchita district until his death in 1895. The



mother now makes her home in San Miguel. Their three children are as follows: S. D., a farmer near San Miguel; Willis, of whom we write; and Emma, who resides with her mother.

Willis Dodd was reared in Ranchita district from the age of eight years, attending the local school. As a lad he learned to drive the big teams in the grain fields as well as to care for stock. For a few years he farmed in partnership with his brother on the Proctor place of 1,120 acres. After his marriage he bought his brother's interest in the stock and implements, and continued on the place for another year.

His marriage occurred in December, 1908, when he was united with Miss Amelia Jensen, a native of Kansas who came in 1891 to San Luis Obispo County with her parents, Peter and Hannah (Hansen) Jensen. Her parents were born in Denmark. They came to Kansas when they were young people, and were married there. In 1891 they located at the head of the Ranchita cañon, and in 1908 bought a farm near Ranchita schoolhouse, where Peter Jensen died on November 30, 1915. His widow resides on the farm. Their four children are as follows: Anna, Mrs. Waugh; Amelia, Mrs. Dodd; Clarence, who died in 1907, aged twenty-four years; and Charles.

In 1909 Mr. Dodd purchased a ranch of one hundred sixty acres near Ranchita schoolhouse, which he operated together with other leased land until 1916. He then sold his ranch, and leased the old Kirkpatrick place of four hundred acres, with adjoining land to the extent of six hundred forty acres, where he is busily engaged in raising grain and stock. He sows about one half the land each season to grain, using a ten-horse team.

Mr. and Mrs. Dodd are the parents of two children, Clarence and Elmer. Mrs. Dodd is a thoroughly domestic woman, displaying much ability as a housewife, and is a great aid to her husband. They are both very hospitable, and are highly esteemed by all who know them. Fraternally, they are members of the Fraternal Brotherhood. In politics, Mr. Dodd believes the principles of the Republican party to be for the best interests of the greatest number of the people.

**SWAN NELSON.**—A man who achieved success and became prominent and influential in the vicinity of Paso Robles, Swan Nelson was born in Ignaberga, Skane, Sweden, June 24, 1844. He received his education in the local schools of his district, meanwhile assisting his father until he started out for himself. He then found employment in building the railroad from Stockholm to Malmö, and in time became a foreman. In 1869 he came to America, locating in Platte county, Neb.

In 1870, at Galva, Mr. Nelson was married to Miss Bettsey Erickson, who was born in Ballingslof, Skane, Sweden, and who, on completing her studies in the public schools, took a course at the School of Domestic Science. After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Nelson located a homestead of one hundred sixty acres near Genoa, Platte county, and later bought an adjoining tract at four dollars per acre. Their holdings comprised two hundred eighty acres, all rich, tillable bottom land, which they improved with substantial buildings. This land they still kept, during all the years of their residence in California, until the fall of 1916, when it was sold for one hundred twenty-five dollars an acre, which shows the great rise of land values in that section.

In 1887, Mr. Nelson removed with his family to Templeton, San Luis Obispo County, where for two years they engaged in the restaurant business.

Meantime he had purchased his ranch, on which he located, and made the improvements, building his residence and barns. He began with eighty acres, and as he prospered he purchased adjoining lands until he had about six hundred acres in the Linne section, which was all devoted to grain and stock-raising.

Mr. Nelson was very prominent in public affairs. He was a director in the Farmers Alliance Business Association until his death, on June 9, 1916. He was a prominent and active member of the Swedish Methodist Church in Paso Robles, in which he was a trustee.

Mrs. Nelson is the administratrix of the estate, and now resides in Paso Robles. Her son, Knute Nelson, is in charge of the ranch.

Mr. and Mrs. Nelson had seven children, three of whom are living: Nance Emil, a business man in Los Angeles; Knute B., who is operating the home farm; and Franz Otto, who is also a business man in Los Angeles. The children are all successful and very enterprising men. Mrs. Nelson is a member of the Swedish M. E. Church, of which she is a very helpful and liberal supporter.

**RALPH E. MCKAY.**—Among the successful oil men of the various fields in California, possibly no one has won more distinction as a contract driller, or has had a wider experience, than has Ralph E. McKay, of Santa Maria, whose operations have extended over a period of many years and into many states. As an employe of the Union Oil Co., he it was who first successfully shut off the water in the wells in the Lompoc fields, and thereby changed the prospect of failure to one of the surest pumping propositions in the state. Mr. McKay is proud of his Scotch ancestry. His father, A. B. McKay, was born in Glasgow, and came with his father, Peter McKay, to the United States when he was a lad of thirteen and settled with the family in Illinois. He was large for his age; and at the time of the Civil War, fired with patriotic zeal, he enlisted for service in Co. I, 53rd Illinois Volunteer Infantry, serving in the same regiment with his father. He saw twenty-two months of active duty, was with Sherman on his march to the sea, and was honorably discharged at the close of the struggle, then being only sixteen years of age. The young veteran went back to Ottawa, Ill., took up the machinist's trade, in which he had started to serve an apprenticeship, and later married Catherine Denny, a native of Canada, of Irish extraction, who had moved with her parents to Milwaukee, Wis., when she was a child, where she was reared and educated. There were four sons and four daughters in the family of Mr. and Mrs. A. B. McKay, Ralph E. being the only one in California and the only one in the oil business. The parents live at Longton, Elk county, Kans.

Ralph E. McKay was born in Pittsburg, Pa., and when eighteen months old was taken by his parents to Kansas. Later, the family moved to Allegheny county, Pa., where he was educated in the grammar and high schools in Pittsburg. He supplemented his education with a business course in a night school, working in the meantime in a jewelry store for one dollar and a half per week. This did not appeal to him; so he went into his father's machine shop at East Liberty, where he ran a steam hammer and drill press, helped in the blacksmith shop, and became acquainted with all branches of the trade. For a time he was in the mail service, and then went into the oil fields in Butler county, Pa., and finding work with a contractor by the name

Ed Stumfer, began as a tool dresser when seventeen years of age. He soon began drilling, at which he has been very successful, and has since followed that kind of work.

The oil business has a fascination for him, and he has worked in many places and seen a great deal of the country. From Butler county he went to Monroe county, O., and then to Wood county, the same state. He then went to West Virginia and drilled in the Parkersburg, Grafton and other fields, and for various contractors. He worked in Kansas and Oklahoma, having several good wells to his credit in Chautauqua and Montgomery counties, Kans. Then he put down some wells on the Cherokee and Osage Indian reservations. Mr. McKay drilled five gas wells on the Osage side of the state line near Peru, Kans., for ex-Senator Shaw of New York. He worked in Florence, Colo., for the Colorado Fuel & Iron Co., of Pueblo.

On December 9, 1907, he arrived in California, and has not had an idle day since, unless of his own choosing. He began drilling for the Salt Lake Oil Co. at Sherman, and eight months later went to work for the Union Oil Co. He drilled a well for oil and gas on the Jesus Maria ranch, known as the Burton well, 4,655 feet deep—a dry hole. He drilled Purisima No. 9, and here encountered water that threatened the field and brought to the fore the ingenuity of Mr. McKay and the leading men of the Union Oil Co.; and he successfully cemented a number of wells that are now among the steady producers of California. Two years and two months were spent with the Union Oil Co., in the Lompoc field, when he came to the Palmer Union Oil Co. and had charge of the tools for a time. Then he began taking contracts on his own account, and since that time has been successfully employed in the Santa Maria field.

On December 19, 1908, in Santa Maria, Mr. McKay and Miss Margaret Hobson were united in marriage. They have two children, Ralph E., Jr., and Josephine Beverly Boyd McKay. Mrs. McKay is a daughter of J. W. Hobson, a prosperous rancher and well-known pioneer of Santa Maria, now of Santa Margarita. His parents crossed the plains with ox teams from Kansas when he was a babe. He was stolen by Indians; and when found, five days later, he was in the arms of an Indian squaw, who had become so attached to him that she was loath to let him go. Mr. Hobson is engaged in building a road from Atascadero to Morro, through a scenic section of San Luis Obispo County.

Mr. and Mrs. McKay reside in Santa Maria, at 416 East Church street. They are interested in all forward movements for the upbuilding of the county and state, and have a wide acquaintance throughout this section. Mr. McKay is a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 322, B. P. O. Elks.

**SIDNEY MONTGOMERY BARR.** An employee of the California National Supply Co. since 1911, and the present manager of the branch at Sisquoc, having held that position since September, 1914, Sidney M. Barr has been keenly alive to the many opportunities offered by the oil business of the state. He is a native of Pennsylvania, born in Butler county, February 5, 1891, a son of James Barr. His father was the owner of two large farms in that county, on one of which were four oil wells, two of them producing high-grade forty-gravity oil. His mother was Miss Nellie Cousins, a native of Pennsylvania. By her marriage with Mr. Barr she had ten children, of whom seven sons and two daughters are now living. One died after marriage,

leaving two little girls. Mr. Barr died in 1903. Later, Mrs. Barr married O. J. Skinner, and now lives in Emporium, Pa. Of her children, mention may be made of John, a tool dresser for the West Coast Contracting and Developing Co., at Casper, Wyo.; George A., a salesman for Fairbanks-Morse Co., at Taft; Florence, a saleslady in a Los Angeles cloak and suit house; L. H., an engineer for the Texas Oil Co., at Tulsa, Okla.; C. C., a locomotive engineer with the L. S. & M. S., living in Cleveland, O.; Eugene, an engineer with the P. & L. E., living in Pittsburg; Floyd, an electrician in Cleveland, O.; Mary, also in Cleveland; and Sidney M., the subject of this review.

Sidney M. Barr remained at home and went to school until he was fifteen years of age. When he was twelve, his father died, leaving him without the paternal guiding hand so necessary in a boy's career; nevertheless, he went to Buffalo, N. Y., attended school there and at Niagara Falls, and graduated in the class of 1908. At once taking up the battle of life, Mr. Barr found employment in Buffalo for a time, and then went to Cleveland.

On November 27, 1910, he came to California, where he worked for his brother, George A., for about one year, running a water station at Taft. Then he entered the employ of the California National Supply Co., in their branch at Taft, where he remained three years, giving good service, which was rewarded by promotion to manager of their branch in Sisquoc. Here he gives evidence of the qualities of a careful, considerate and successful business man, easily making and retaining friends, who predict for him a bright future.

**KENCHO SALVADOR ONTIVEROS.** Fortunate is the man who, like Kencho Salvador Ontiveros, the young rancher, having learned the secret of success in one field of activity, can apply the knowledge thus acquired when new and better opportunities for expansion and reward are presented. He inherited a fertile ranch from his father, the late Salvador Ontiveros; and believing that

"He who at the plow would thrive,  
Himself must either hold or drive,"

he abandoned city counting-rooms, smiled good-naturedly at the ridicule of his young friends who laughed when he contemplated farm work with his soft hands, rolled up his sleeves, and went at the task. The result is, that although the past year was the first in which he had managed a ranch, he cleared up several thousand dollars, owing in part to the high prices of beans, grain and hay.

Born on the Tepesquet, on January 16, 1884, and educated at the public schools in his neighborhood, as well as at the Santa Maria grammar school and the Pacific Coast Business College in San Jose, he served for six months as clerk in the Farmers Union Bank of that city. After the great earthquake, he went to San Francisco, where for four years he worked in the "Cash House" clothing and men's furnishing establishment. Later, he engaged with Nathan Dohrmann, Hayden & Co., and still later was in the office of the Carrigan-Hayden Wholesale Hardware Co. In 1908, he came to Santa Maria and went to work as collector for the Pacific Telephone Co., putting in two and a half years in that capacity, and then acting for six months as their manager.

A distressing accident, the result of playfully boxing with friends, compelled him to enter a Los Angeles hospital and caused him the loss of an eye. This somewhat conditioned his next move, which was a journey to Arizona, where he took up a hundred sixty acres of land near Wilcox. This he proved

up and still owns. Having there acquired valuable experience, he entered on his enviable inheritance of a hundred fifty-six acres received from his father, who died some years ago. This property he had retained, while his widowed mother—Mrs. King, of Santa Maria, whose biographical sketch appears elsewhere—and the other children sold their holdings. Here, in 1916, he raised six hundred five bags of beans and sixty tons of hay.

At San Francisco, Kencho Ontiveros was married to Miss Lee Lancaster, a belle of Denver, and with her he lives contentedly in his modest country home on the Tepesquet. There they are planning to build, the coming year, a modern and model residence.

Mr. Ontiveros is the grandson of Juan Pacifico Ontiveros, who once owned the entire Tepesquet rancho. He is a nephew of Abraham Ontiveros, whose life is outlined elsewhere in these pages. An esteemed brother was Senecio Ontiveros, who met with such injuries in an automobile accident in Los Angeles that, after lingering for six weeks between life and death, he died in November, 1915. Another brother is Ernest L. Ontiveros, proprietor of the Standard Oil Co.'s gasoline and oil station on North Broadway, in Santa Maria. A sister is Zorida, the wife of Louis Hughes, a resident of Santa Maria; and another sister is Erolinda, the wife of Jack Portenstein, of Los Angeles.

**PATRICK E. HOURIHAN.**—A son of Erin who is one of the hardest-working men engaged in farming on the Tepesquet, and is just as good a manager and financier as he is a practical, laboring farmer, Patrick E. Hourihan was born in County Cork, Ireland, March 12, 1884. His father, who died in his native land at the age of eighty, was also named Patrick; and his mother, who reached her seventieth year and also died in Ireland, was known before her marriage as Miss Margaret McCarty.

Growing up on his father's farm of about a hundred acres, Patrick E. Hourihan attended the public schools of his native land, and thus, when nineteen years of age, pushed out into the world for himself. On May 16, 1903, he sailed from Queenstown on the Cunarder "Lucania." He landed at New York, and soon came west to San Francisco. Moving on down to the Santa Maria valley, he worked out by the month; and although he received only thirty dollars for a wage, he saved his money, and so got ahead. He then went to Santa Barbara, and for some years was engaged first as a motorman and later as a conductor, on the street railway.

In the meantime, in 1907, he had married Miss Lilly Ontiveros, a daughter of Jose D. Ontiveros, now deceased, an outline of whose worthy life appears elsewhere in this work. She is a niece of Abraham Ontiveros, also described on another page. Mrs. Hourihan had inherited from her father a ranch of two hundred twenty acres; and in 1913 Mr. Hourihan returned to the Santa Maria valley and began farming his wife's place, giving it his personal care and attention. By wise forethought and hard labor, Mr. Hourihan has made this beautiful place on the Tepesquet creek a model of neatness and comfort, and the headquarters of plenty. He has set out a family orchard, has laid out a fine garden, and has a beautifully kept lawn and a well-built and attractive residence. He farms the ranch to barley and beans; and in 1916 he cleared up about twelve thousand dollars on these crops.

A wide-awake and progressive citizen, Mr. Hourihan is esteemed for his independent views. He votes according to principle, and for candidates

known and approved. Mrs. Hourihan is a social favorite in Garey and on the Tepesquet. They are devoted Catholics, and attend the Foxen Cañon Catholic Church.

Mr. Hourihan has three brothers living in America. Lawrence is a rancher at Arroyo Grande; Mike is a farmer at Madera; Tom is a policeman at San Diego. A sister, Annie, is the widow of Peter Hourihan, deceased. Another brother, Cornelius C. Hourihan, is farming on the old home place near Cork, in Ireland.

**EDWARD J. DANIELS.**—One of the interesting men that it is a pleasure to meet is Ed Daniels, trustee of the Tepesquet school district, who, for several years, has been clerk of the board and filled the position with efficiency. He is a native son, having been born in Oakland, October 22, 1864, a son of William and Adelia (Randall) Daniels, pioneers of that city. The father came overland in 1850 as an employee of Ben Halliday, driving a band of mules and about two hundred head of cattle, and in due time arrived without mishap. He made two more trips in the same manner, long before there were any railroads, and each time brought back stock. He eventually settled in Fresno county, and in 1880 came to Guadalupe, and died at the home of his daughter, in Lompoc, in February, 1909.

Ed Daniels was reared in this state and educated in the public schools. The most of his life since he has been old enough to remember has been spent on the range, and he is as much at home in the saddle as on terra firma. Since reaching manhood he has worked his own way and has met with an average degree of success. On November 25, 1893, he married Miss Jennie Gibson, a native of Iowa, who has resided in California since 1888, and they have five children, William Wible, Fred E., Irwin, Mary Loraine and Porter. As Mr. Daniels has succeeded he has bought land and now owns and operates four hundred acres of the Tepesquet. He makes a specialty of cattle and his brand is WD, duly recorded in the records at Santa Barbara and known by all stockmen throughout the central coast section.

**PERRY HUDSON.**—A resident of the Santa Maria valley since 1873, and thereby entitled to the honors of pioneer, Perry Hudson is a son of California, having been born in Sonoma county, November 5, 1850. He grew to manhood and attended school there, and at the college at Sonoma. He was raised on a farm, became familiar with raising stock of all kinds, and it was but natural that when he started out for himself he should begin raising horses, cattle and hogs. In 1873 he was married to Miss Maria Ausser, a native of San Jose, and they have had two children, sons: Tollie, living in Red Bluff, and Martin, at Point Richmond.

His father, Martin Hudson, was a Virginian, who moved to Missouri when young, and while living there was united in marriage with Bessie Mackera. Then they came overland to California, in 1848, at the first emigration to the western coast. They settled in Sonoma county, which remained the family home for many years.

The year of his marriage Mr. Hudson came to the vicinity of Guadalupe and leased land for ten years, at which time he was able to buy his present ranch of three hundred twenty acres; and during his residence here he has carried on a successful and growing stock business. He votes the Democratic ticket at national elections, but in local matters selects the best men regardless of party lines. He has served on the school board for several years.

**GEORGE LESH FULLER.**—George L. Fuller, the production foreman of the Palmer Union Oil Co. in Cat cañon, in the Santa Maria oil fields, is a veteran and trusted employee of the company, who commands the respect of those working under his direction and the confidence of his superiors. He is justly popular for his kindly treatment of his men, is optimistic in his views of life, and tries to live up to the Golden Rule. He was born at Kinzua, Warren county, Pa., August 8, 1880, a son of Benjamin M. Fuller, a farmer who also worked at the oil business for a time, and now makes his home with his son. His people are descended from an old New York family who went to New Jersey in an early day. His father was married in Warren county, Pa., to Mary B. Brown, who was born in Easton, the same state.

George L. Fuller grew up on the home farm, and attended the grammar and high school, from which he graduated. At the age of twenty, he began working in the oil fields. In September, 1911, he came to California, and in Los Angeles met Frank Feathers, a well-known oil man, who induced him to come up to the Santa Maria fields, where Mr. Feathers was then superintendent for the Palmer Union Oil Co. Since that time Mr. Fuller has been associated with this concern. He began at the bottom, and gradually worked up to his present position as production foreman.

On June 27, 1907, at Frewsburg, N. Y., Mr. Fuller was united in marriage with Miss Bina Williams, a resident of that town from her girlhood. Frewsburg is located six miles from Jamestown, which is on the outlet of Chautauqua lake, the home of Bishop Vincent and the birthplace of the Chautauqua idea. Mrs. Fuller is a woman of education who has assimilated much of the culture and refinement of the literary atmosphere of old Chautauqua. She radiates good cheer, and does much to grace and refine the social and home life of their community. She is a member of the Baptist Church. Mr. Fuller is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, a Past Noble Grand of the lodge in Frewsburg, N. Y. With his wife, he enjoys the friendship of a wide circle of acquaintances in their section of the valley.

**LOUIS WILLIAMS.**—Well and favorably known throughout the oil fields section of the Santa Maria valley as a contract teamster, Louis Williams is doing his work the best he knows how and is gradually creeping up the financial ladder on his own merits. A native of California, he was born in the Sacramento valley, at Biggs, Butte county, February 17, 1883, and was but a babe in arms when his parents settled in the vicinity of what is now Sisquoc. Here he grew to manhood, attended the district schools, and early became familiar with farm work. He lives on three hundred twenty acres of land owned by his father, and known as the home place; and another half section of grazing land is leased from Henry Holt. In 1916 he had eighty acres in beans, and harvested a bumper crop.

Mr. Williams' principal business, however, is heavy teaming. He owns twelve head of fine draft horses for that purpose, with wagons and necessary equipment for hauling lumber and heavy machinery into the oil fields; and having given his personal attention to the work, he pleases his patrons, who offer him about all the work that he can attend to.

In 1908, Mr. Williams was united in marriage with Miss Anna Hanson, who was born in San Luis Obispo, and is a stepdaughter of J. P. Hanson of Santa Maria. They have had four children: Pearl A., Elsie L., Louis A.

(who died in infancy), and Ruby A. Both Mr. and Mrs. Williams are well known throughout the valley, where they are popular with their many friends.

Mr. Williams' father, Jacob Williams of Los Angeles, was one of the pioneers of Cat cañon, and is widely known throughout the valley as the owner of three valuable ranches. He came overland to California from Wisconsin at the age of fifteen, located in Butte county, and began his career by chopping wood. In 1884 he came south and settled in Cat cañon. He married Miss Jennie Krusick, who was born near Pittsburg, Pa.; and six children were born to them: Joseph, in the Imperial valley; Jacob K., a rancher near Tempe, Ariz.; Louis, the subject of this review; Addie, the wife of Harold McDonald, of San Pedro; Mollie, who married A. R. Hunter, of Tempe, Ariz., and Jennie, Mrs. Max Dunham, of Torrance, Cal. After an active career as a rancher, Jacob Williams and his wife retired to Los Angeles, leaving their son Louis to represent the name in the Santa Maria valley, where he is living up to the example set by his worthy parents.

**SANTA MARIA UNION HIGH SCHOOL. PROF. NELSON CROSFORD SMITH, B. L., M. L.**—An educator who has a thorough grasp of the many intricate details connected with an institution of learning that has a wide sphere of influence, Prof. Nelson C. Smith is deserving of especial mention in the history of the community that has been so greatly benefited by the school in which he has labored. A man of lofty ideals, he is an inspiration in the various departments of the school, where he encourages originality and initiative in his pupils.

The Santa Maria Union High School is one of the best of its kind in the state, and reflects the progressive spirit and high idealism of the people. The buildings, complete in every detail, are located at the corner of South Broadway and Morrison avenue. The main building has two stories and basement, and is well ventilated and lighted. The first half of this building was completed in 1894, and the second half in 1905. The manual training and domestic science building was erected in 1912, and is a model of perfection. The physical and chemical laboratories are well equipped, and there is a large library of well-selected books, particularly works of reference. There are also well-organized commercial and art departments. The school has an enrollment of fifty-six boys and eighty-one girls, with an average daily attendance of one hundred twenty-two. All entrants must have a diploma of graduation from the grammar schools, or must pass a satisfactory examination before the principal of the high school and the county superintendent of schools.

The yards, lawns, playgrounds, shrubbery, and pergolas (made by the boys of the manual training department); the trusted caretaker, the principal, the faculty, and the trustees; the parents, tax-payers, and an appreciative and enlightened public sentiment: all contribute to the exceptionally high standard of this high school. The girls and boys are encouraged in athletics, and ample ground is set apart for out-of-door sports. There are two basket-ball courts and two tennis courts, a splendid baseball diamond, and a fifth-mile track. In track and field events, a handsomely engraved silver trophy cup has been won by the students of the school in competition with students of other high schools. Everything about the premises indicates a careful attention to detail; and the students, faculty, and board of trustees have a justifiable pride in the condition of the grounds and buildings.



The board consists of T. R. Finley, president; W. H. Rice, clerk; Mrs. J. H. Winters; and Messrs. F. J. McCoy and A. R. Jones. The faculty includes: Nelson C. Smith, principal—History and Spanish; Errett Allen, vice-principal—Science; Miranda Ray Arms—Household Arts; Vera Hawkins—Mathematics, History, Girls' gymnasium; Cora L. Bryson—English, Dramatics, Debating; Beatrice M. Maine—Latin, German, History, Girls' basketball; Frank M. Buzick—Commercial branches; C. M. Rogers—Manual Arts, Drawing and Athletics; Ormonde Paulding, librarian.

The principal of the faculty, and the recognized leader in the building up of the Santa Maria Union High School, Prof. Nelson C. Smith was born at Malden, Mass., on March 4, 1881. He was graduated from the Boston University in 1901. The following seven years were spent in educational work in the Philippines. For one year thereafter he was Fellow in History in the University of California, where, in 1910, he received the degree of M. L. He spent 1910-11 as professor in and vice-principal of the McKinley Intermediate High School of Berkeley. In 1912 he came to Santa Maria, where his labors have since been spent in building up the high school.

At Stoneham, Mass., Prof. Nelson C. Smith was married to Miss Susan Alice Meredith, a native of that state and a graduate of Boston University. They have one daughter, Susanna Meredith Smith. Professor Smith is a Mason, a member of Hesperian Lodge, No. 264, F. & A. M., of Santa Maria. He is a communicant of the Methodist Episcopal Church. A man of fine education, broad-minded and progressive, and firm in his decisions, he has made a name and place for himself as an educator in the annals of California.

**RAMON A. CAREAGA.**—Strange and striking are the contrasts suggested in the life of Ramon A. Careaga, one of the best-known men on the San Jose Exchange, and the representative of the San Jose Realty Co., and those of his distinguished military ancestors who, by chivalrous exploits in the service of the King of Spain, established the Careaga family in America. A Spanish nobleman, from romantic Castile, seems to have been the first to come, making for Mexico with his soldiers and there demanding and receiving recognition of Spanish arms. After a while, Colonel Saturnino Careaga came into prominence, an aide to Captain Munoz, whom he accompanied to Monterey and later defended and protected the isolated Mission of San Jose—almost losing his life in the bargain. This brave officer was Ramon F. Careaga's father and the grandfather of the subject of this sketch.

Although not of a military nature—destined, in fact, to be an equally aggressive leader in paths of peaceful endeavor—Ramon F. Careaga, who died February 7, 1914 (leaving a widow, still residing at San Jose), was a remarkable man. Born in Monterey county, he joined his brother, Juan B., and Daniel Harris, a friend, in buying some 18,000 acres of the old De la Guerra ranch, a tract of vast extent that figured conspicuously in early California history; and when Harris took 7,500 acres, Ramon retained 6,900 as his share. By the merest chance, the presence of oil was detected in seeing the surface of the ground sprinkled here and there with asphalt, and thus it happened that on Ramon Careaga's ranch was fixed the center of the great Santa Maria valley oil industry, the foundation of the later Careaga wealth.

Maria A. Bonevantur, of French and Castilian blood, was the estimable lady chosen by Ramon F. Careaga as the companion most likely to become intimate to him in his arduous way through life; and faithfully, nobly

she performed her duties as wife and mother. Eleven children, all of whom she has seen grow either to maturity or to interesting youth, and all of whom are still living to bless her, were born of their union. Among the four daughters, one, Eleanor, now Mrs. John Carr, resides on one of the ranches; the other three girls—Rita L., Evangeline and Angeline—are at home with their mother and attend Notre Dame school. Ramon A. is the second eldest of the sons, Luis S., of Santa Barbara, being his senior; and next came John T., Ramon's partner at San Jose; Bernardo, who lives on the Careaga ranch; Antonio, residing with his mother; James F., a ranchman near Los Alamos; and Charles M., superintendent of part of the Careaga ranch.

While some of the children, therefore, have remained on the old farm, or are affording personal companionship to the widowed mother, Ramon A. has entered the commercial and financial circles of his native state and, entirely through his own ability, has become prominent in the field in which he is an acknowledged specialist—that of realty, with all its perplexing phases. How much his happy marriage to Miss Cora Riley has had to do with his success, those who know the attractive lady and her two wide-awake children, Ramon F. and Alberto J., may best judge. Certainly they constitute in their decidedly home-like home, at San Jose, a contented group, each working for the others' welfare.

Besides the realty business, Mr. Careaga is extensively interested in the oil business in San Benito county, where he and his two partners, L. A. Crandall and State Mineralogist Moran, have over 20,000 acres leased, and are beginning to develop the property, which will mean untold wealth to that section of country.

**THOMAS EDGAR McKEE.**—A citizen of whom any community might well be proud, and in whose life are illustrated the results of energy, perseverance and judicious management, is Thomas Edgar McKee, a native son born at Salinas, the oldest of five children, and the son of Richard Young McKee, now enjoying retired life at Monterey. His father was a farmer and stock man, having been born in Pennsylvania, and came to California during the war; and his grandfather, Thomas McKee, was a native of Scotland. The mother's maiden name was Essie Starkey, a native daughter, born in Alameda county of Irish and German descent. Up till a few years ago, the grandparents, paternal as well as maternal, were alive, thus showing the hardihood and longevity of both the families.

Even as a boy, T. E. McKee had to battle with adversity, and so came to assist his father very early; and as he was clever at figuring, the foundation for which knowledge was laid in the public school he attended, he got to estimating by a new method for computing the cost of hauling, and so secured numerous contracts. At seventeen, he advanced to the more technical work of steamfitting, and entered the employ of the Union Iron Works, and later assisted the Spreckels Sugar Co. at Salinas for a year, afterward working for Duffy & Tay.

In 1905 he had his first experience with oil, undertaking to do some blacksmith work for the Union Oil Co. at Lompoc; and before he had finished with that, he had run up against every phase of the oil problem. Now a contract driller, during this time he helped in the process of and use in California of cement to shut off the water in oil wells. He and his partner, George M. Scott, the secretary of the Chamber of Commerce at Santa Maria, control

30,000 acres of well-situated oil lands, and this alone is likely to make him wealthy. He also has some 5,000 acres in the Casmalia district, as well as some in San Luis Obispo County, each parcel of land situated in an oil belt.

At the present time, as drilling contractor, he is drilling Well No. 8 for the new Pennsylvania Petroleum Co., the well being nearly finished. His record as an oil-well driller is excellent. With a special reputation for expert work in cementing, he is not limited to the Santa Maria field, but cements for anyone in the various oil fields of Santa Barbara county. The natural result is that, in strong contrast to the somber days of his boyhood, he is at last on a fair road to prosperity.

At Berkeley, on September 20, 1903, Mr. McKee married Miss Daisy Severy, a native of Stockton, and the daughter of F. A. and Elizabeth (Jones) Severy, both of whom are living at Oakland. The father was born in Boston, Mass., and in California is a well-known newspaper man. Particularly interesting is the association of the Severys with this San Joaquin city, for at one time Mrs. McKee's grandfather, Moses Severy, owned much of the land on which Stockton stands. Her mother was a native of Stockton. Grandfather Jones was a stockman. Mrs. McKee is the second oldest of eight children, seven of whom are living. She was reared and educated in the public schools of California. Four children, Bernice, Loraine, Fern and Thomas, are the result of this union, and with their parents contribute to swell the membership of the reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Two brothers of Mr. McKee, Louis and Robert, assist him in his responsible work; and there are two sisters still living, one being Mrs. J. J. Westfall of Monterey county, and the other Mrs. C. A. Cooper, of San Francisco.

**SAMUEL P. CHASE.**—Joy in the great open and that love of daring and hazard which has poured into romantic California such a number of her adventurous and most successful pioneers, were the mainsprings which prompted Samuel P. Chase, the chief rig-builder for the Western Union Oil Co. at Bicknell, to choose a calling that eventually landed him on the Pacific coast to become one of the master minds in the oil fields. Born at Johnstown, O., in 1880, when the bells were pealing out a happy New Year, he grew up in the home of his father, Solomon P. Chase, then a jeweler and watchmaker, but now retired, who has a Civil War record as a member of the 2nd Ohio Heavy Artillery. For six years Samuel was under the tender care of his mother, now deceased, who was known in her girlhood as Mary Malissa McClain. A brother died in infancy, but five sisters also grew up and are now residing at various places in their native state.

After attending the public schools at Johnstown, Samuel started to learn the jeweler's trade in the establishment of his father, who was already somewhat well-to-do; but finding it too tedious and confining, he pushed out, at the beckoning age of eighteen, and began to try his luck as a rig-builder in the oil fields at Lima, O. Two years later, learning of the oil prospects in California, he crossed the Rockies and settled at Bakersfield; from which place, with an enviable reputation as an expert rig-builder, he moved to the Santa Maria fields, where he established himself as a contractor. It was not until 1909 that he entered the service of the Western Union people, with whom he has been ever since. In all these years of unremitting toil, Mr. Chase has piled up experience as he has reared his rigs, until today it is safe to say he has built a million dollars' worth or more of derricks.

Shortly after coming to the Santa Maria valley, that is, in the year 1906, Samuel Chase married Miss Sadie J. Lane, born in Bennett, Nebr., a daughter of Edward J. Lane, a plasterer residing on the Western Union lease, who had come from Iowa and had spent some twelve years in Los Angeles, where she was, as she is today, a social favorite. One child, Dorothy Eileen, welcomes him at eventide when he returns to his cosy home on the Union Oil Co.'s tract, no doubt also stimulating his interest in school affairs, for Mr. Chase has shown his good citizenship by acting for the past four years as a school trustee for the Careaga school district. Both employer and employee have learned to depend upon Samuel P. Chase; nor does the stranger, applying to him for guidance through the maze of the oil districts, want for courtesy or intelligent attention.

**HERBERT W. GRAFFT.**—A man who is making his influence felt in agricultural circles and leasing five hundred seventy acres of the Suey ranch, owned by the Newhall Land and Farming Co., is Herbert W. Grafft, of the Santa Maria valley. He was born in Hall county, Nebr., October 2, 1881, a son of James A. and Marietta (Foreman) Grafft, both natives of Jones county, Ia. The maternal grandfather, John Foreman, was the plaintiff against Robert Johnson in the celebrated "Jones county California case," which was in the courts for twenty-eight years, and cost both sides approximately \$1,500,000. It was fought from the Circuit court to the Iowa State Supreme court, and it broke Mr. Foreman. Mr. and Mrs. James Grafft are residing at Tranquility. They had thirteen children.

When but five years old, Herbert W. Grafft was taken by his parents to Iowa, where he attended school, and at the age of nine began to work on his grandfather's farm, plowing with a walking plow. In 1902 he came out to California and has worked at ranching ever since.

He is one of the most successful of the tenants on the Suey ranch, raises hay, grain and beans, and owns, besides, a threshing outfit operated by a 30-60 oil pull traction engine. He also has twenty-four head of horses and retains one good man all the time; and during the threshing season he employs as many as fifty men. Prior to 1911, when he moved to his present place, he was leasing the Ramon Dana and the V. S. Runnels ranches at Nipomo, and was very successful; but he considers his present place more profitable.

On November 15, 1905, Mr. Grafft was married to Miss Daisy Runnels, daughter of V. S. Runnels of Nipomo, and they have three children—Eugene, Florence and Vernon. Mr. Grafft is a member of Santa Maria Lodge, No. 90, Knights of Pythias; and in politics he supports the men that he considers best suited for the office regardless of party lines. He is a man of striking appearance, active, progressive, and highly respected by all who know him.

**JOHN L. HARRIS.**—An energetic, ambitious and very promising young scientist, whose family name is associated in a pleasant way with the geography and history of the State of California, is John L. Harris, who was born on the Harris ranch, at Harris Station, in Santa Barbara county, the son of Lawrence Harris, a stockholder and director of the Union Sugar Co. His father now resides at Berkeley; but on account of his many interests in oil and agricultural lands in Los Alamos valley, he considers Santa Barbara county his real home. Having attended the public school at Los Alamos, and finished a course at the Santa Maria high school, John matriculated, in the fall of 1902, at the University of California, where he pursued a general

scientific course with chemistry as his major subject, graduating in 1906. After his graduation he went back to the university for an additional year of graduate work in chemistry. In 1907 he went to Goldfield, Nev., and was there engaged as a miner and assayer for six months, after which he worked in the oil fields, beginning then and there the responsibility of looking after his father's interests.

While at the University of California, he was a member of the *Mim Kaph Mim*, a chemistry honor society that has since become a national organization; and his proficiency led to his coming, in March, 1909, to the laboratories of the Union Sugar Co. at Betteravia, as their assistant chemist. There he remained three years, leaving them only to take up similar work for the Spreckels Sugar Co. at Salinas, and the Western Sugar Refining Co. at San Francisco. He was one of the assistant foremen of the Spreckels plant, and would doubtless have continued with them had not the Union Sugar Co., always seeking for the highest results and the best service, offered him such inducements that, in 1914, he returned to their field as the immediate assistant to M. M. Purkiss, chief agriculturist.

As an analytical chemist, with a fine knowledge of soil analysis and fertilization, and a special proficiency in the analyzing of the sugar beet and all its products, Mr. Harris has contributed largely to the promotion of scientific farming. A popular member, also, of the social circles in Santa Maria valley and in the north, in which he moves, he is especially active among the San Luis Obispo Elks.

**MYRTON M. PURKISS.**—What inspiration and power may often be found in early making a resolution as to one's ambition and conduct in life, and then sticking to the plan thus formed until the wished-for goal has been luckily reached, is shown in the interesting history of M. M. Purkiss, chief agriculturist of the Union Sugar Co. at Betteravia, and the person, in that splendidly-organized concern, next in power to Mr. J. W. Atkinson. Born a native son, at Willits, Mendocino county, December 6, 1887, the lad worked his way up from poverty, all the difficulties massing to impede his progress, but contributing to a more intense desire on his part to be satisfied with nothing short of definite and positive success. His father was John A. Purkiss, a most worthy early pioneer of Santa Barbara county, who built and ran the first flour mill at Los Alamos, dying in British Columbia at the age of fifty-nine. His mother, Etta Eames in maidenhood, who was as devoted to her children as she was to her husband, is still living at Santa Maria at the enjoyable age of sixty-two. The parents had five children, three of whom were torn from them in their tenderest years by the dread disease diphtheria. The other survivor is Vernon John, a plumber of Santa Maria.

While yet a mere lad of twelve, M. M. Purkiss began to work out for other people, getting up at four o'clock in the morning and seldom being permitted to go to bed before eight o'clock in the evening. His first employer was C. H. Pearson, of Los Alamos, who gave him five dollars a month, and permitted him to go to school, at the same time that he was doing chores about the farm. After a while he finished the grammar school, and then he earned fifteen dollars a month. He was ambitious, however, to obtain a better education; and so he went to Santa Barbara, where he attended the high school for two years. At the same time he mastered a commercial course at Hoover's Business College in Santa Barbara. It was there that he

made the resolution which so affected his after life: to connect himself, if possible, with some large corporation and to stay with that concern for at least twenty years.

Finishing his schooling, he started to work for the Union Sugar Co. the first year that the factory was started. In the beginning, he was a mere helper, and carried the chain for the civil engineers; then he worked for a year as an assistant in the laboratory, and in 1901 he ran the company's hotel. The following year he went back to factory work; but having a desire to learn agriculture, he was placed on the Betteravia ranch and made agricultural foreman under E. H. Nicholson, then chief agriculturist, who was farming from 8,000 to 10,000 acres of land. For four years he remained foreman; and when Mr. Nicholson resigned, in 1908, he was made chief agriculturist. Just what the responsibilities of such a position involved may be inferred from the returns of the 10,000 acres stretching from Lompoc valley to San Luis Obispo County; from fifteen to thirty-five tons of sugar beets per acre are generally harvested, the beets containing quite 18 per cent. of sugar, and the entire crop of a hundred thousand tons producing 16,000 tons of sugar, while the by-products are crude molasses and beet pulp.

In June, 1904, Mr. Purkiss was married to Miss Hulda A. Glines, daughter of C. R. Glines, the Santa Maria pioneer, whose interesting sketch is given in this volume; and two children, Albert C. and Cassius M., are the light and life of the Purkiss home, one of the prettiest residences on South Broadway in Santa Maria, built in 1914. An active Republican, Mr. Purkiss has long been a member of Santa Barbara county central committee; so that in civil as well as in business affairs his advice and support are frequently sought. He is an active Mason in Hesperian Lodge No. 264, F. & A. M., at Santa Maria, and is also a Knight of Pythias and an Elk.

**GEORGE W. MOORE.**—A native son of pioneer parents who came to this state in the early fifties, George W. Moore has shown his progressive spirit in many ways since he has attained manhood. As is natural with one who has spent almost his entire life in the state, he is interested in the growth and development of California, and more especially the Santa Maria valley, where the most of his life has been passed. He was born in the historic old town of Monterey, a son of George W. and Brohelia (Cochran) Moore, who hailed from Ohio, the former coming around the Horn and the latter crossing the plains to California, where afterwards they were married. From Monterey county the family came to Santa Barbara county and located at Lompoc, where the father carried on a general merchandise store for some years. Both parents are now deceased.

George W. attended the public schools of Monterey and Santa Barbara counties and lived in Lompoc from the age of ten to twenty-two. He was engaged in the mercantile business in Guadalupe when the advent of the railroad gave that town a boom, later going to Los Angeles; and after that he spent four years in Centerville, Santa Barbara county, in the mercantile business.

It was while a merchant in that town that he met and later married Miss Mabel D. Lowry, the daughter of William T. Lowry, a banker of that place. Of this union two children have been born to brighten the family circle: William, a graduate of the Los Angeles high school and now an employe of the Union Sugar Co. at Betteravia; and Lila, now attending the

Los Angeles high school while duly chaperoned by her mother. From Centerville Mr. Moore came back to California and was in business in Lompoc awhile, and then entered the employ of the Union Sugar Co. at Betteravia as storekeeper in the hardware department; and during the years he was so employed he gave good satisfaction.

Mr. Moore, however, believes in working for himself; and seeing an opening in Santa Maria, he resigned from the Union Sugar Co. and with a partner opened a vulcanizing shop located on South Broadway, which also carries a supply of automobile accessories under the firm name of the Lewis Vulcanizing and Tire Co. Since their organization on January 1, 1917, the firm have enjoyed an increasing patronage, specializing in their branches of automobile work. Through their courteous treatment and prompt attention to details, they are paving the way for a merited success. Mr. Moore is a Blue Lodge Mason, and has passed the chairs in the Guadalupe lodge.

**SEVERINO FERRARI.**—From the green valleys and mountain slopes of snow-capped Switzerland, have come many of the recent settlers of California who have contributed so much, both by their industry and their knowledge of agricultural conditions such as are found here, to the rapid and marvelous development of this State; and worthy of honorable mention among these frugal and peaceful citizens is Severino Ferrari, the enterprising dairyman of Betteravia. Born in the Canton of Ticino on July 30, 1868, he began work as a boy in a dairy; and when he was only sixteen years old he came to California and found employment at the E. Morgante ranch near Guadalupe.

Mr. Ferrari married Miss Pia Righetti, also a native of Switzerland, which country he revisited in 1905.

One of those men who never stand still, but are always taking a front rank in the field they have chosen, Mr. Ferrari has worked along lines of scientific and sanitary dairying and now operates the Betteravia dairy on shares, and milks one hundred fifty or more cows owned and managed as a special interest of the Union Sugar Co.; and he supplies Betteravia with the highest grade of milk, cream and butter that can be found anywhere around.

Mr. Ferrari is industrious, naturally bright, a man of strict integrity and personal honor, and a thoughtful citizen with a preference for the forms and principles of government advocated by the Republican party. He reflects the highest degree of credit both on his native country and on the land of his adoption. Mr. and Mrs. Ferrari are members of the Catholic Church.

**WILLIAM McELLIGOTT.**—The bustling town of Betteravia is the pleasant abode of a large number of men who were thrown upon their own resources at an early age, but whose natural abilities were strengthened rather than weakened by a harsh contact with the exacting world, thus helping them to gain in a large measure both the esteem of their associates and financial success. Such a self-made man is William McElligott, chief engineer for the San Joaquin Light & Power Co., who was born in London, England, on August 15, 1872, of estimable and ambitious Irish parents, both of whom are deceased. His father had been a school teacher in the Old World, but crossed the ocean when William was only six years of age, and settled at Eldorado, Butler county, Kan., where he was employed in a lumber yard. He died at the age of forty-three years. On his death the widow, whose Christian name was Hanora, moved to Oklahoma, and resided there.

near Tulsa, until she died. There were three children in the family, William being the oldest; a daughter, Hanora, died at the age of seventeen; and Maurice is an operating engineer in power house No. 3 of the San Joaquin Light & Power Co., at Northport.

When William reached Oklahoma in 1889 it was in the day of the territory's great boom, and he thus has a recollection not only of historic London, but of Kansas and Oklahoma, with their Indians and cowboys, and particularly of the Cherokee Indians. Having attended school in Kansas, and undergone the rough-riding on the cattle ranges in the southwest, he migrated to Amarillo, Tex., where he remained from 1895 to 1906.

In 1904 he was married to Mrs. Addy Massey, a daughter of A. J. Busby, now of Fresno, and in 1906 they located in Fresno also. The San Joaquin Light & Power Corporation were looking for a live man about this time, and in Mr. McElligott they found one who has proven himself acceptable, popular and dependable. From 1910 to February, 1916, Mr. McElligott had charge of the steam boilers and engines of the San Joaquin Light & Power Plant at Bakersfield, and in this latter year he was transferred to Betteravia, where he is responsible for the operation of the two thousand h. p. engines which furnish power and light to the sugar company, as well as to the Pinal-Dome Refinery.

A more skilful and thoroughgoing technician than William McElligott could scarcely be found in this thriving section of California, where so many men of trained technical ability naturally congregate; and no one warmed by his large-hearted personality, and knowing the obstacles he has overcome, will envy him his success.

**RAMON W. GOODCHILD.**—Two notable California families are joined in the union of Ramon W. Goodchild, the son of John Thomas Goodchild, and Miss Hortensia Ontiveros, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jose D. Ontiveros. What the forbears of the Goodchilds did is already set forth in the sketch of James Wilson Goodchild; the Ontiveros, on the other hand, continue the splendid traditions of one of the earliest Spanish families now living in California, they having descended from intrepid soldiers sent out to Mexico, about two hundred fifty years ago, by the King of Spain. Even then distinguished for their hardihood, the Ontiveros are still a vigorous and long-lived family, some of the recent members attaining to over ninety years. Their men are striking for handsome figures, while the Ontiveros women are famed for their beauty.

The second son of John Thomas Goodchild, still an honored resident of the Santa Maria valley, and of Adela (Ontiveros) Goodchild, for many years deceased, Ramon was born on March 14, 1881, grew up on his father's ranch, and attended the Olive public school, of which, for the past three years, he has been clerk of the board of trustees. When only fifteen, he drove a six-horse team, and since then he has come rapidly forward in a knowledge of ranch management and affairs.

December 14, 1907, Ramon Goodchild led his bride to the altar, the lady being a graduate of the same Olive public school, and for five years a student at the Sacred Heart Convent, Oakland. Both are devout Catholics, and attend the Foxen Cañon church. Their wedding was celebrated with true California hospitality. One child, Ramon William, has resulted from this union—a bright and sturdy lad, who will doubtless be heard from some day.



Through the death of her father, Mrs. Goodchild, an accomplished house-keeper, excellent wife and mother, and a most considerate hostess, inherited a fine ranch of two hundred twenty acres, which, added to her husband's property, constitutes a substantial estate.

A man of superb physique, Mr. Goodchild has seen considerable public service. For eight years he was constable in the Eighth Township of Santa Barbara county, but when re-elected to that office for a third term he refused to qualify. In appreciation of his fidelity to duty, however, he has since been appointed roadmaster of the Sisquoc district, and as supervisor of the fifteen miles or more of the highways under his care, he shows the same intelligent administration of a public trust. An independent voter, he casts his ballot for the best candidate.

**BERT E. JESSEE.**—The agreeable and obliging assistant cashier of the firmly-established Bank of Santa Maria, Bert E. Jessee, has spent his entire life in this productive valley, where he was born November 15, 1888, a son of Madison and Elizabeth (Earl) Jessee, and a grandson of Captain Jessee, who was captain under ex-Governor Lilburn H. Boggs when he was ordered to California from Missouri in 1846, to hold this territory for the Union. The maternal ancestor of Mr. Jessee was founder of the famous Harbin Springs in Lake county.

The education of Bert E. Jessee was received in the grammar and high school of Santa Maria, and he graduated from the latter in a commercial course. He then entered the Bank of Santa Maria as a clerk, and by steady application to business he has worked his way up during the past twelve years until he is now assistant cashier.

Mr. Jessee was married in 1911 to Miss Florence Bonetti, a daughter of J. B. Bonetti of Santa Maria, acting agent for the LeRoy estate containing several thousand acres of fine land in this valley. Mr. and Mrs. Jessee have one son, Albert W. Jessee.

Mr. Jessee is a member of Santa Maria Lodge No. 90, Knights of Pythias. The family reside in their beautiful bungalow home at the corner of Cook and McClellan streets.

**JAMES M. HUGHES.**—A resident of Santa Barbara county since a lad of thirteen years, and one who does business on a large scale, for he has grown up with the great western state of California, is James M. Hughes, living two and one-half miles east of Santa Maria. He was born May 16, 1876, in Pottawatomie county, Kansas, and attended the district school there until he was about thirteen, when his parents, George and Rachel (Guthrie) Hughes, packed up their belongings and came to Santa Barbara county in 1888. They are both still living, in Santa Maria. The father was born in North Carolina and the mother in Missouri; and their eight children were born in the East, three dying in early childhood. The others are: John F., who married Carrie Tomer of San Luis Obispo County, lived in Santa Maria until his death in 1912, and left two children, Ruby and George; and James M., Homer E., Floyd Louis, and Harley A., all of Santa Maria.

After coming to California, James did odd jobs and later began working on ranches by the month; and he has kept busy at that vocation ever since. For years he leased four hundred acres of the Suey ranch and ran that besides his own one hundred twenty acres. He also started in threshing beans, with a fine outfit operated by a Twin City tractor engine, 40-70 h. p.,

and a Ventura bean thresher, 36-60 separator, taking fifty-two men, fourteen wagons and forty-five horses to properly carry on operations during the season. The daily average is 1,400 sacks, although he has threshed as high as 2,000 sacks. The investment represents an expenditure of \$17,000. In 1916 Mr. Hughes farmed only his own land, formerly known as the Steling ranch of eighty acres, and the Wolf ranch of forty acres adjoining.

In 1899 Mr. Hughes was united in marriage with Miss Althea A. McHenry, a native of Missouri, who came to California with her parents, Daniel and Nancy (Rowe) McHenry, both of whom are now deceased. They had ten children, six of whom are now living. One sister, Mrs. Mary Susan Tapscott, died in 1916, leaving three sons and three daughters. One brother died at sixteen. The others are: Sarah, wife of Lyman Barnard of Lamar, Colo.; William Thomas, of Lompoc; Louisa, wife of Andrew Chapman, of Elk City, Kan.; Luella, wife of Carl Moeller, of Lompoc; James, of Thayer, Kan.; and Althea A., Mrs. Hughes, who attended the grammar and high school of Santa Maria. She was graduated from the latter in the third class after the organization of the school, and was valedictorian of the class. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes have three children, Gladys, Inez and Leo. Mr. Hughes is a Republican, and a public-spirited, self-made man.

**JACOB P. HANSEN.**—This much-respected rancher and public-spirited citizen of Santa Maria began life in California with an empty pocket, but willing hands, and now owns two fine ranches of seven hundred forty and two hundred forty acres respectively, lying along the Santa Maria river, and devoted to raising stock, grain, hay and beans, two hundred thirty-five acres being tillable land. The proprietor of these ranches, Jacob P., better known as "Jack" Hansen, was born in Jutland, Denmark, February 26, 1869. His parents were Hans M. and Lena M. (Jensen) Hansen, both born and deceased in their native country. The former was a well-to-do farmer and was a soldier in the war between Denmark and Germany in 1848-49-50. The parents had eleven children, seven now living. One son, Peter, died in the Santa Maria valley, and a daughter, Mrs. Margarita Jensen, lives at Nipomo.

Jacob P. Hansen, the other son, who is the subject of this review, was educated in the common schools, confirmed in the Lutheran Church and reared on the home farm. His brother, Peter, had come to California, and the glowing tales he wrote home fired his younger brother with a desire to try his own fortunes in this land of opportunity. Hence he sailed from Bremerhaven, Germany, on the Bremen line, and landing in New York, proceeded at once to California, arriving at Nipomo on April 23, 1888, where he joined his brother. When he started, he had only money enough to bring him to his destination, and it was necessary for him to go to work; accordingly he sought employment, and for eighteen months worked for \$25.00 per month. Then, with his brother Peter, he engaged in ranching on the Fugler ranch until the death of his brother in 1896, since which time he has carried on business on his own account, and has met with a decided success. He employs two men the year round and spends a great deal of his own time on his ranches. One ranch lies thirteen and one half miles southeast of Santa Maria, and the other is in Foxen cañon.

Mr. Hansen was united in marriage with Mrs. Laurence Heisel—née Christiansen—of Danish parentage, a native of Schleswig-Holstein. By her first husband, two children were born; and after her union with Mr. Hansen they were given the Hansen name and have been reared as his own. Annie

is the wife of Lou Williams and has three children, their family residing in Cat cañon; Mary married C. W. Dowell and resides at Arroyo Grande. Mr. Hansen has been a very public-spirited citizen, and has served as a school trustee for many years and is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is a Republican. In the fall of 1916 he bought a lot in Santa Maria and erected a modern bungalow home where he and his good wife reside in the enjoyment of the comforts of city life, and where they are surrounded by a wide circle of friends. They believe in the golden rule and are charitable towards those less fortunate than themselves.

**SANTA MARIA FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.**—The nucleus of the present library was due to the efforts of the Minerva Literary Club, which had maintained a circulating library in Santa Maria for fourteen years prior to the organization of the present institution. The ladies of the club had carefully selected several hundred volumes during those years, and when the organization of a library was proposed, the members of the club were untiring in their efforts to make it a success. As soon as the library was assured, the club donated their books to start the collection.

The project was launched by Miss Bertha Kumle, who was sent from the State library to work up an interest in a library for Santa Maria; her efforts bore fruit, for besides the ladies of the Minerva Club, other prominent people, including L. E. Blochman, P. O. Tietzen, J. F. Goodwin, A. McNeil, W. A. Haslam, S. Fleisher and others, interested themselves in the project. Mr. and Mrs. Paul O. Tietzen, always among those who are ready to help build up the city, donated the half block of ground for the building site and fine lawn. Negotiations were begun with Andrew Carnegie for a \$15,000 donation, but word came back that the population would not warrant more than \$10,000 for a building, which he gave after the usual preliminaries had been gone through with. The good people of the town wanted a better building and were going to have it, so they went down into their pockets for the balance, and in a very short time, in 1908, the contract was let to Frank Darby, and the building costing \$12,000 was ready for occupancy in 1909. In 1914 the city acquired the corner lot, which makes a lot about 300x200 feet for the library site.

In order to get the donation from Mr. Carnegie, the city entered into an agreement to provide a sum of one-tenth of his donation each year for the upkeep of the library. The amount appropriated by the city annually, therefore, is \$1,200. The following board of trustees was appointed by the city council: A. McNeil, J. F. Goodwin, L. E. Blochman, S. Fleisher, W. A. Haslam. Mrs. Minnie Stearns was employed as librarian, and she still holds the position, giving evidence of her administrative ability by the modern methods introduced from time to time. There are 3,500 volumes on the shelves, and additions are made year by year. The library is well patronized by the people of the city. The present board consists of A. McNeil, J. F. Goodwin, W. A. Haslam, A. R. Jones, and M. A. Kerr.

The library is now a branch of the Santa Barbara County Free Library, with six hundred volumes additional added to the collection of books by mutual arrangement, which gives satisfaction to all the patrons. The Santa Maria Library compares favorably with libraries in other cities of the same size, and even larger than Santa Maria, and with its well-kept grounds it adds very materially to the city's attractiveness.

**MARK H. WHITNEY.**—To live in the midst of the unequalled fertility of the Santa Maria valley, is to have a broad outlook, and to aspire to great things. Here as elsewhere there are specialties in agriculture, and he who can so marshal his forces as to excel in the production of any desired commodity may be sure of an extended appreciation and an income commensurate with the extent of his operations. Mark H. Whitney has fifty-two acres which he cultivates to beans and grain, having besides a half interest in a threshing outfit, with Joseph Lopez for a partner, and tries to operate both just a little better than anyone else.

A native son, Mr. Whitney was born in Biggs, Butte county, May 20, 1886, a son of Mark and Elizabeth (Haas) Whitney. The father was born in Litchfield, Mich., moved West when a boy, settling in Nevada, and later became a stockman there, also following that vocation after settling in Butte county. He married in 1884, in Winnemucca, Nev., brought his wife to California, and after three and one-half years spent in Butte county, as a stock-raiser, became the manager of a grain warehouse located on the Sacramento river at Butte City, in Glenn county, and for eleven years held that position, coming to Santa Maria in 1899. He died in 1905 at the age of fifty-one. Mrs. Whitney is a daughter of Holgate and Ellen (Lee) Haas, born in Chestnut Hill, Penn., and was seven years old when her parents settled in Nevada in 1871, where she was reared and educated.

The only child of his parents, Mark H. Whitney attended the grammar schools, and early began working on the farm; and after the death of his father he took charge of the home place, and has continued to successfully raise grain and stock. With his partner, Mr. Lopez, Mr. Whitney derives a considerable income, during the season, from threshing. The outfit consists of a Case separator, with a 32-in. grain cylinder and a 40-in. bean cylinder, a 60 h. p. Russell engine, fourteen wagons, fifty-two men, thirty-four horses, two autos, and a cookhouse. The grain season lasts about sixty days and the bean season about thirty days.

Mr. Whitney is a self-made man, highly esteemed for his devotion to principle. He is a Mason, a member and past master of Hesperian Lodge No. 264, F. & A. M., and he also belongs to Fidelity Chapter No. 96, Royal Arch Masons. He has a host of friends and is recognized as a public-spirited citizen. He makes his home with his mother, who is a member of the Methodist Church and active in the Ladies' Aid, in which she has been an officer.

**JOHN ROBERT EARL.**—The record crop of small white beans grown on the Suey ranch in 1916 is credited to John Robert Earl. It excelled that of all other tenants, bringing him, together with his crop of barley, a tidy sum. Mr. Earl comes from the well-known Earl family and is a son of Robert W. and Nettie (Mattingly) Earl. He was born in Santa Maria valley on the Earl ranch, on August 20, 1889, of a family mentioned in the sketch of Robert W. Earl, on another page of this work. He attended the public school, and from the time when he was twelve years of age he was able to drive a twelve-horse team and plow, thus assisting his father on the home ranch until he was twenty-one.

Then he leased one hundred sixty acres of the Nicholson ranch and farmed for himself until 1913, at which time he rented three hundred seventy-five acres of the Suey ranch, of which T. C. Asmus is superintendent. In 1916 his yield of beans was 3,182 sacks from two hundred acres, sixteen sacks to the acre, forming the record production; and 1,300 sacks brought him nine cents

per pound. Mr. Earl has twenty head of work horses which he keeps busy the year around, and he himself is a hard and steady worker, knowing full well that it insures his success.

On October 29, 1916, Mr. Earl and Miss Belle French, a native of this valley, were united in marriage. She is a daughter of Charles French, who resides south of Orcutt, and is a well-known rancher of that part of the valley. Both Mr. and Mrs. Earl are popular throughout the valley, where their entire lives have been spent; and they have many friends, among whom they are social favorites. Mr. Earl is a member of Santa Maria Lodge No. 90, Knights of Pythias, and is a self-made man.

**T. C. ASMUS.**—With the sterling qualities for which the German nation is noted the world over, T. C. Asmus has worked his way forward to an encouraging degree of success by his close identity with the ranching interests of the central coast counties, and especially in the Santa Maria valley, as superintendent of the Suey rancho owned by the Newhall Land & Farming Co. of San Francisco, consisting of George A. Newhall, president; W. Mayo Newhall, vice-president; Almer W. Newhall, secretary. This ranch is located five miles northeast of Santa Maria, and contains 45,000 acres, part of which is leased on shares to tenants who are responsible and energetic, and who have been making a success of raising grain, hay and beans under the guidance of Mr. Asmus. There are thirteen tenants on the Suey ranch, and one tenant on the Todos Santos ranch of 11,000 acres near Casmalia, owned by the same corporation. Forty thousand acres of the Suey and 7,000 acres of the Todos Santos ranch are given over to grazing, and some of the finest beef cattle and hogs sent to the market come from these properties. The home ranch on the Suey has two hundred fifty acres under plow and employs from nine to thirteen men. The live stock on the rancho's broad acres is of the highest grade, as noted by different packing companies of Los Angeles when they assert that the best bacon hogs they get on the Pacific Coast come from the Newhall Land & Farming Company of Santa Barbara county. The cattle are raised from Durham cows and Hereford bulls, which, in the estimation of the best cattle men on the Coast, yield better results than any other breeds.

The competent superintendent of these properties, T. C. Asmus, is a native of Germany, born January 21, 1863, in the Kingdom of Prussia, on a farm near the Harz mountains, and reared to the farm life. His father, Frederick Asmus, died during the war of 1870 and left his widow, Marie Tagedmeier Asmus, and their nine children, in fairly good circumstances. She is still living in Germany, and at the age of eighty-five is hale and hearty. Her father had charge of the government stage from Berlin to Halberstadt. As a boy T. C. Asmus attended the common schools and the Real Schule, a special kind of industrial high school, and matriculated at the agricultural school at Baderslaben, from which he graduated with honors. He next became an apprentice and served two years on a 4,000 acre farm to complete his agricultural studies. The first year he received no wages and besides had to pay his own board. He became a Verwalter or agent on this same farm, which was named "Rittergut Hopenseen." By the time he was twenty-one, he entered the army, serving from 1884 to 1887. He began as a private and advanced to a member of the Lehr battalion of Potsdam, which was the Crown Prince's body guard, virtually the pick of the German army. Having done his military duty, he resigned from the army, after a two year's leave of absence, which he had spent in America.

During the spring of 1888, Mr. Asmus landed at the rancho Corral de Piedra near Edna, in San Luis Obispo County, and for twenty-two months worked as a farm hand in all branches of ranch work, finally becoming buttermaker in the E. W. Steele dairy. He then accepted a position as foreman on the Eagle ranch, and afterwards he took charge of the Nacimiento ranch and remained for eleven years. The San Joaquin valley next claimed Mr. Asmus as a resident when he became associated with Miller & Lux as superintendent of the Santa Rita ranch, Miller's "home" ranch, at Mendota. We next find Mr. Asmus in the livery business in San Francisco, where he conducted a stable for five years and met with fair success.

Thereafter he accepted the position of superintendent with the Newhall Land and Farming Co., and since assuming his duties, he has made the ranch a dividend-payer. He collects the landlords' shares from the tenants, advises the latter how to till the soil to get the best results, insisting on deep plowing and at the proper time, and, while he is a dictator, gets results for the tenants and owners alike. He is a man of ideas and strong will power; he does not "guess," he "knows"; in fact, the yields of hay, barley and beans are greater on the hills of the Suey ranch than on the level valley lands south of the river. In 1916, one hundred acres yielded 5,300 sacks of barley, and one hundred eleven pounds each. Since he took charge of the affairs of the rancho more uniform results have been obtained than in former years. He keeps accurate books; knows the chemical composition of the soil, germinating qualities of the seeds, temperature, rainfall; and distills the essence of truth from statistics, and is guided accordingly.

In 1898, at San Miguel, Mr. Asmus married Miss Mattie Smith, daughter of Fred and Catherine Smith; and they have two children, Rudolph and Margaret. Mrs. Asmus is a member of the Catholic Church, while he is a Lutheran. In politics he is independent. He is kind-hearted, generous to a fault, just, and, above all, square and prompt in dealing with his neighbors and fellow men, no matter what their station.

**JOHN HENRY REINKE.**—A pioneer of California in 1854, John Henry Reinke was born in Hanover, Germany, August 7, 1835. His father, Dietrich Reinke, was a farmer there, who married Miss Schumacher, and brought his family to Cincinnati, O., in 1844, where the parents resided until their death. Of their four children, John H. is the youngest; and he received his education in the public schools of Cincinnati.

In 1854, John Henry Reinke came via the Nicaragua route to California. Landing in San Francisco on May 19, he went to Coloma, and thence to Yankee Jim, where he followed mining in the Sierras till 1857. He then made his way to Indian creek, Del Norte county, and engaged in placer mining until 1862. From 1862 to 1865, he mined on the Klamath river. After wintering at Eureka, in the spring of 1866 he went to Silver City, Ida. His next venture was made in the Lemhi valley, during the mining excitement there. For some years he followed mining and sawmilling in Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Utah. One year he hunted buffalo in Texas, and then mined for two years in Colorado, and for five years in Arizona. His health being shattered, from exposure in hydraulic mining, and in damming streams and bridging rivers, he was forced to quit the mines.

In 1886 he located in San Luis Obispo County and pre-empted one hundred sixty acres in the Oak Flat district, with a view to taking up ranching. He cleared some of the land and set out an orchard of a variety of fruit

trees; and when these came into bearing, he sold to the families in Paso Robles. Here he built a house and barns, and had a cozy little home and well-kept ranch.

On account of rheumatism, Mr. Reinke sold his farm in 1916, and bought a place on Olive and Twenty-first streets, in Paso Robles, where he makes his home. One of the few now remaining of the old type of California miners, he has been over a great portion of the West and is very familiar with the mining geology of the country.

**FRED EARL.**—A man who meets and looks his fellow men squarely in the face and parts with them on the square, as well as being a splendid type of manhood, who is successfully farming on the Suey ranch, is Fred Earl. He was born in the Santa Maria valley on the home ranch, November 20, 1883, into the family home of Robert W. and Nettie (Mattingly) Earl, a more complete history of whom the reader may find in their sketch elsewhere in this volume. He went to the district school and was reared to farm pursuits on the home place near Garey until he was twenty-one, and then he began for himself.

He is now in his fifth year as a tenant on the great Suey ranch, where he leases five hundred seventy-five acres of land, raising grain, hay and beans. He keeps twenty-five head of horses and from two to ten men busy all the time, and has been very successful.

In September, 1904, Mr. Earl was united in marriage with Miss Nellie Orand, who was born in Kansas, a daughter of Gideon and Lydia (Grimes) Orand, who came to California when she was a child, so that in this state she received her education. Mr. and Mrs. Earl have had three children, Leo, Herbert and Harold, twins, the latter having died March 31, 1916, at the age of three years.

They are members of the Eastern Star and Mr. Earl is a member of Hesperian Lodge No. 264, F. & A. M., and of Santa Maria Lodge No. 90, K. of P. Since reaching his majority, Mr. Earl has steadily made his own way towards success and is giving his entire time and attention to building up his fortune and career. As a result, he is already counted one of the successful ranchers of the valley where he is so well and favorably known for his industry and strict integrity.

**ABRAHAM LINCOLN NICHOLSON.** A well-to-do rancher, land-owner and successful grain and bean grower, as well as a man of honesty, industry and integrity. Abraham Lincoln Nicholson is a descendant of Revolutionary patriots and especially of Robert Livingston, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was born October 30, 1864, at Ossian, Winneshiek county, Iowa, a son of Powell and Caroline (Woodard) Nicholson, both natives of Pennsylvania, where they were married, later going to Iowa in the early days. The Nicholson family is of English ancestry, the progenitors settling in America in the early Colonial period, since which time many have become distinguished citizens of this country. Robert Livingston held blood-relationship with the Nicholson family.

Educated in the public schools of Iowa and reared on the farm until 1887, Mr. Nicholson then came to the Santa Maria valley, worked with his brother Ellis Nicholson, superintendent of the Suey ranch, for two years, and in 1889 started out for himself, leased land and in the fall of 1890 made his first purchase of one hundred sixty acres nine miles southeast of Santa Maria, to which he has added until he owns two hundred eighty acres there.



His next buy was one hundred acres one mile east of Santa Maria, where he lives and which land now is worth \$300 per acre. Mr. Nicholson has carried on general farming, raising stock, grain and beans, and has been very successful; and he has thus made a name and place for himself in the financial circles of Santa Barbara county.

In September, 1892, Mr. Nicholson was united in marriage with Miss Mary Snyder, who was born in Hollister, a daughter of John V. Snyder, a carpenter and builder. Both Mr. and Mrs. Snyder are now deceased. Mr. Nicholson is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

**PHILIP SAMUELSON.**—A farmer and horticulturist who is also engaged in contracting and building, and has some of the modern residences in Paso Robles to his credit, Philip Samuelson first came to San Luis Obispo County in 1888. He was born in Dalehusby, Dalene, Sweden, on January 21, 1864, the son of Rev. Andreas Samuelson, a minister in the Baptist Church, who was an earnest and faithful preacher until his death. His wife, Carolina (Pearson) Samuelson, is still living at the old home. Of their eleven children, nine are living, four of whom are in the United States, as follows: Mrs. Williams, of Santa Cruz; Rev. Samuel E., a Baptist clergyman in Michigan; Joseph, who is engaged in the hotel business in Turlock; and Philip, of this review.

Philip Samuelson was brought up, and received a good education, in his native place. When seventeen years of age, he began learning the cabinet-maker's trade, but soon decided to migrate to the land of the Stars and Stripes; so in 1881 we find him in what is now Clay county, S. D., where he worked at farming and also at the carpenter's trade. As soon as he was twenty-one years of age, he homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in Faulk county, S. D., began improvements on the property, and farmed it for three years; but these all proved to be dry years, and he became so discouraged that he left it and came to San Luis Obispo County, Cal., in 1888. He began working at his trade in Paso Robles; but finding work slack there, he went to San Francisco and Santa Cruz, and found employment in those cities until 1890, when he returned to Paso Robles.

At Linne, in 1891, Philip Samuelson was united in marriage with Miss Alma Anderson, who was born in Westmanland, Sweden. Her father, Andrew Anderson, was a watchmaker and jeweler, who brought his family to Nebraska in 1878, where he worked at his trade in Stromsberg. Later he migrated to Clearwater, Cal., and in 1887 came to San Luis Obispo County and bought 5,000 acres of Dunning & Dresser. He laid out this tract and sold about 2,000 acres, the rest going back to the original owners. The sale of the subdivision was accomplished in about four years, the principal portion sold being in and about Linne. Afterwards he located at Compton, and later moved to Los Angeles, where he died in April, 1915. His wife was Anna C. Pearsdatter, who died eight months after her husband. Of their thirteen children, Mrs. Samuelson is the fourth in order of birth. She received her education in the public schools of Nebraska.

After his marriage, Mr. Samuelson engaged in farming for two years, when he removed to Los Angeles and for two years worked at his trade. He then homesteaded one hundred sixty acres at Manzanita P. O., Tehama county. Finding the location unsatisfactory, however, after two years he left it and moved to Oakland. After one year there, he went to Washington, where he engaged in contracting and building for seven years.



In 1907, Mr. Samuelson returned to San Luis Obispo County and rented his present place of fifty acres east of Paso Robles, and soon afterwards purchased it. The land has been cleared, and a residence and barns have been built. There is a well twenty-four feet deep on the place, with an inexhaustible supply of water; and a pumping plant has been installed for the irrigation of the alfalfa fields. The higher ground is set to almonds and pears.

During these years, Mr. Samuelson has been engaged in contracting and building. He has constructed many residences in Paso Robles and the country adjacent. In his building operations he is assisted by his oldest son, Elmer. The other children of the family are Florence, a graduate of Paso Robles High School, now attending the University of California; Mildred, attending Paso Robles High School; and Milton and Evelyn. Mrs. Samuelson is a member of the Baptist Church in Paso Robles. Mr. Samuelson was for six years a trustee of the Linne school district, until he resigned. Politically, he is a Socialist.

**HANS NISSEN AAROE.**—A young man who, by his energy and close application, is making a success of farming, Hans Nissen Aaroe is a native of California, born at Soledad, Monterey county, on June 10, 1890, the son of L. N. Aaroe, whose interesting life story appears elsewhere in this work.

Hans Nissen Aaroe was reared on the farm at Soledad, where he was educated in the public schools until he reached the age of sixteen years, when his parents removed to their farm near Paso Robles. Here he completed the grammar school courses, and then turned his attention to farming, assisting his father until he reached his majority, when, in partnership with John Hansen, he leased the Dresser ranch of 3,000 acres. They operated this property for a period of three years, when Mr. Aaroe bought his partner's interest in the stock and implements, and they dissolved partnership. He then leased the Louis Lauridsen ranch of seven hundred fifty acres, which he devotes to grain and to stock-raising, operating it with two ten-horse teams, and sowing about four hundred acres to wheat and barley each year.

The marriage of Mr. Aaroe occurred in San Luis Obispo, uniting him with Miss Annie Jespersen, a native of California, born in Bakersfield, Kern county, the daughter of John H. and Elisa (Lauger) Jespersen, who were born in Schleswig, Denmark. They came to California when they were young people, were married in San Luis Obispo, and engaged in farming. The father died at Pozo in 1907, while the mother is now farming in the Union district. Mr. and Mrs. Aaroe are the parents of one child, a little daughter, Gladys Janet.

Fraternally, Mr. Aaroe is a member of the Woodmen of the World. In matters of religion, both he and his wife are of the Lutheran faith.

**MRS. FRANCES E. LEWIS.**—One of the old settlers of Paso Robles is Mrs. Frances E. Lewis, who was born at Brownsville, Ind., on July 11, 1836. She is the daughter of Jeremiah H. and Elizabeth (Locket) Wilson, natives of Virginia, who removed to Brownsville, Ind., where they were engaged in farming. In 1841 they located in Davis county, Ia., where Mr. Wilson was a miller. Later he moved to Blackhawk, in the same vicinity, and there followed farming. Still later, he was a farmer at Hamburg, Ia.; and here he and his wife died. Of their twelve children, Mrs. Lewis was the oldest. She was raised on the farm, and was educated in the subscription schools held in the rude pioneer log houses of those days.

Her first marriage took place in Davis county, Ia., on February 28, 1856, when she was wedded to Rev. James Lambert, who was born in Lawrence county, O., on September 25, 1830. He came out to Iowa, where for a time he followed farming. After studying for the ministry, he was ordained in the Baptist Church and became pastor of the congregation at Harlan, Ia.

In 1876 he came with his wife to Lompoc, Cal., and there engaged in farming until 1887. Coming to Paso Robles, they homesteaded one hundred sixty acres about three miles north of town, where they built a home and improved the ranch. He organized the Baptist Church in Paso Robles, and became its first pastor, continuing in the pastorate there until his health failed and he had to give up the ministry. Having sold their ranch, they built a residence in Paso Robles; and he died at his home, on August 10, 1899. In early days he had been made a Mason.

Of the union with Mr. Lambert seven children were born, as follows: Malissa Alice, Mrs. Lindner, of Paso Robles; James Albert, who resides in Stockton; William J., who died at the age of seventeen months; Louis A., of Santa Maria; Marinda J., Mrs. Norton, who died at the age of forty years; Hattie, Mrs. Grant, of Los Angeles; and Carey W., of Oakland.

About seven years after the death of her first husband, Mrs. Lambert was married to I. M. Lewis, a native of Missouri and an early settler of California. Mrs. Lewis is a member of the Baptist Church, and of its local Ladies' Aid Society. Politically, she is a Democrat.

**GEORGE W. BRYAN.**—A member of the firm of Bryan Bros., proprietors of the Baden Market, and a resident of Paso Robles since 1892, George W. Bryan was born in Norton county, Kans., April 1, 1884. His father, William N. Bryan, was born in Iowa. He was a farmer, who removed to Norton county, Kans., where he was a pioneer and a homesteader. Coming to the Coast, he located in Paso Robles, where he has since been proprietor of Bryan's Express Co., the leading transfer company of the place. George Bryan's mother, Belinda Alexander, was a native of Indiana.

When but a lad, George W. Bryan came with his parents to Paso Robles, where he grew to manhood. After completing the grammar-school courses, he entered the employ of H. Nelson as a butcher. Previous to this, when he was only thirteen years of age, and while in the fifth grade at school, he had begun driving the delivery wagon for the same firm, mornings and evenings, and on Saturdays; and after graduating, he worked in all the departments, and learned the butcher business in all of its details. Resigning his position in 1905, he accepted an engagement with C. W. Steinbeck, the butcher in Oakland, with whom he continued for a year. He was in Oakland at the time of the San Francisco fire. Returning to Paso Robles in 1907, Mr. Bryan became a partner of his former employer in the butcher business; and two years later they also bought the Central Market at King City, and Mr. Bryan removed to that place to manage the business. Later still, on selling his interest in the Paso Robles Market, he became sole owner of the Central Market in King City. There he continued in business for three years, and then sold out and again removed to Oakland. Six months afterward, he left the state and moved to Bandon, Ore., where he was employed at his trade for six months.

On his return to Paso Robles, he formed a partnership with his brother, J. B. Bryan, who had learned his trade under him; and they bought the Baden Market on Pine street, where they have since been doing a successful

business. They have a modern and well equipped slaughter house, and the market is up to date in all of its details. It is equipped with a California cold-storage plant. They do both a wholesale and a retail business in meats, manufacture sausage, and cure ham and bacon. Mr. Bryan, through his long experience, has become an excellent judge of stock; and he does the buying for the firm, making trips through this county and adjoining counties for cattle, sheep, and hogs to supply the Baden Market.

In San Jose, George W. Bryan was united in marriage with Miss Theresa Carpenter, a native of Kansas, who came with her parents to Arroyo Grande when she was but a year old. They have two children, Gene and Nathalie, who are attending school, and are being taught by the same teacher under whom their father received his first instruction.

Fraternally, Mr. Bryan is a member of the Knights of Pythias. He is also an active member of the Chamber of Commerce. In politics he is a Republican. In his spirit of local pride he is very liberal and enterprising, assisting, as far as he can, with his time and his means, all worthy objects that contribute to the upbuilding of the community and the comfort of its citizens.

**JOHN CALVIN SPILLMAN.**—A resident of California since 1891. John Calvin Spillman was born in Montgomery City, Montgomery county, Mo., September 24, 1876. His father, Calvin Spillman, was born in Kentucky and moved to Missouri as a boy. He learned the trade of the millwright, and also of the blacksmith and the machinist, and followed these trades in Missouri. In 1891 he brought his family to California, and for a time worked at his trade at Honcut. Afterwards, he was engaged in erecting canneries in Marysville and Yuba City. He died in 1908. The mother, Jennie E. (McIlmoil) Spillman, was born in Iowa, of Scotch parentage. She now resides in Hermosa Beach, Cal. Of her eight children, seven are living; and the subject of this sketch is third in order of birth.

John Calvin Spillman was raised in Hannibal, Mo., and pursued his studies in the public schools there till 1891, when he came with his parents to California. He then entered Marysville High School, from which he was graduated. He was with George Hammersly for three years, learning the cigar-maker's trade, but followed it for himself only about eighteen months, not liking the confinement nor the work. Entering the employ of the Sacramento Valley Irrigation Co. at Willows, he took up the scholarship and field work, and two years later was made foreman of the field work. He continued with the company five years in all, until 1913, when he resigned to accept his present position as foreman of field work and equipment for the Atascadero Holding Corporation, taking charge of his department on November 5, 1913. Since then he has given it all of his attention, looking after the entire equipment of the company, all machinery, implements, horses, etc., besides having charge of the field work. He took a special veterinary course in the International School of Correspondence, in order the better to care for the horses in his charge.

At Atascadero, on March 10, 1915, John Calvin Spillman was united in marriage with Miss Margaret Thomas, who was born at Livermore, Cal., the daughter of Mrs. A. L. Thomas, who is represented elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Spillman have a residence in Atascadero, located in block Q. He is a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 322, B. P. O. E. Politically, he is an administration Democrat.

**CHRISTJAN N. JESPERSEN.**—A native of San Luis Obispo, Christjan N. Jespersen was born on April 5, 1890. His father, John H. Jespersen, was a native of Denmark, who came with his father, Christjan H. Jespersen, to California when he was one year old. The family located at Eureka, and later moved to Watsonville, San Luis Obispo County, arriving there when John was about a dozen years of age. John Jespersen was raised at Los Osos, and was educated in the public schools of his vicinity. He followed blacksmithing in San Luis Obispo, and there he married Elizabeth Lager, a native of Kolding, Denmark. They finally located on a ranch in the Cuyama valley, Kern county, where he was a pioneer homesteader. After disposing of his ranch, he removed to McKittrick and engaged in business as a general contractor, and also served as constable. In 1902 he came to Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County, and took up cattle-raising. Here, in 1907, he was accidentally killed while hauling a load of hay over Rector grade; a colt in his team caused the load to go over, and he was killed instantly. After his death the widow located at Union, where she engaged in grain-raising.

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Jespersen had nine children: Christjan N., of this review; Herman, a farmer near Paso Robles; Clarence, a farmer near Union; Annie, Mrs. Hans N. Aaroe, of Union; Lester, who is assisting his mother; and John, Marie, Harry, and Elizabeth, who are at home.

Christjan N. Jespersen completed the public schools in San Luis Obispo County, and then took a course in the International Correspondence School in bookkeeping and business law. When a lad he had learned to drive the big teams in the grain fields; and when his father died, he took charge of the farm together with his mother. He was then seventeen years of age; and he continued on the home farm, helping his mother, until 1913, when he was married, in Union district, to Miss Jennie Iversen, a native of Union and a daughter of C. A. Iversen, of whom also a sketch appears in this work.

After his marriage, Mr. Jespersen engaged in grain farming on the Pfister place and three other places, operating 1,400 acres. In 1916 he leased a part of the Estrella ranch, where he raises grain. He operates 1,300 acres, 1,100 acres of it being plow land. He uses two twelve-horse teams and has sown seven hundred acres to grain, principally wheat. To reap the grain, he employs a combined harvester, with which he reaps also for some of his neighbors.

Mr. and Mrs. Jespersen have two children, Lawrence and a baby. Mr. Jespersen was trustee and clerk of Union school district for three years. He is a member of the Woodmen of the World, while Mrs. Jespersen is a member of the O. E. S. In politics he is an Independent Democrat.

**JOHN H. BUNCH.**—A resident of California since 1873, and of San Luis Obispo County the most of that time, John H. Bunch was born near Berryville, in Carroll county, Ark., on November 17, 1858. He is the son of William and Rebecca (Smith) Bunch, natives of Missouri and Arkansas, respectively. They were farmers, who came to California in 1873. The father returned to Arkansas, where he died; the mother died in Adelaida. Of their four children, the subject of this sketch is the oldest, and the only one now living.

John H. Bunch was raised on the farm in Arkansas, and was educated in the local schools. In 1873 he came to California with his parents, and worked on the home farm at Plano. In 1876 he came to Adelaida, San Luis

Obispo County, where he was employed at farming. He entered into partnership with his brother, Stillman, and they continued farming at Adelaida for three years, when they sold out and dissolved partnership. About 1884 he moved to the vicinity of Shandon, took up a homestead, and continued ranching. Mr. Bunch was one of the early settlers of that section. After a year at Arroyo Grande, he returned to Shandon, where he remained until 1898. He then went to Hanford, and was there for fourteen years, when he again returned to San Luis Obispo County, and rented on the Huntington ranch, in partnership with J. T. Jones. They ran 1,100 acres for several years, and then dissolved partnership. After this Mr. Bunch moved to Bradley, Monterey county, and there engaged in farming and stock-raising for the following two years.

In 1916, Mr. Bunch returned to San Luis Obispo County and rented part of the Estrella ranch, leasing about 1,200 acres there. He sows from five hundred to six hundred acres to grain each year, using two ten-horse teams, and employing a thirty-two horse-power combined harvester for gathering his grain.

John H. Bunch was married in the Cholame district to Miss Mary E. Hammond, who was born near Jacksonville, Ill., and came with her parents to California when sixteen years of age. They have four children: Bertie Edison, Earl Ericksen, Ernest Hollibe, and Elvin Eldred, all living at home. In politics, he is a Democrat.

**THOMAS JOHNSON.**—Thomas Johnson, bookkeeper at the Sacramento ranch, in San Luis Obispo County, is a native of England, born in Leeds, Yorkshire, on July 25, 1886. His father, Henry Johnson, was also born there, and was a law stationer in Leeds until his demise. His mother, Annie (Clarkson) Johnson, is residing at their old home in Leeds. Of their four children, Thomas is the only son, and the only one of their children who came to the United States.

Thomas Johnson received his education in the grammar and high school in Leeds. After graduating from the high school, he entered the municipal service of his native city as an accountant, and continued so engaged until, in the spring of 1913, he came to the United States. Arriving in Los Angeles, in May of that year, and desiring outdoor employment, he found work on a ranch in that vicinity until March, 1915, when he came to San Luis Obispo County and took a position as bookkeeper at the Sacramento ranch. He has since then continued in that position, assisting also in the supervision of the place and giving all of his attention to the interests of the ranch.

In religious preference, Mr. Johnson is an Episcopalian. He is a supporter of every movement for the uplift of society and the promotion of the public good.

**ERNEST A. HAHL.**—A resident of California for over twenty-seven years, and of San Luis Obispo County for more than twenty years, where he is now engaged in farming and stock-raising in the Red Hills, near Shandon, Ernest A. Hahl was born in Hanover, Germany, in 1871, a son of Peter and Cathrina (Mulland) Hahl, natives of that place, who spent their entire lives in their native country.

Ernest A. Hahl was the youngest of five children in his parents' family, and the only one in California. His childhood was spent on the farm at Otterndorf, near Hanover; and he received his education in the public school. When seventeen years of age, he decided to come to America. He arrived

in New York City in 1888, and for some time was employed as clerk in a grocery store there. In 1890 he came to San Francisco, where he was engaged in clerking for a while, and then entered the employ of D. O. Mills, on his farm at Millbury. Later he went to Los Angeles and worked on some ranches in that vicinity.

Mr. Hahl then came to San Luis Obispo County, now over twenty years ago, and pre-empted eighty acres in the Cholame hills. He proved up on this pre-emption, and then homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in the same vicinity. He now had two hundred forty acres. He improved his place with buildings; and after several attempts at sinking wells, he succeeded in getting sufficient water. Here he engaged in grain-raising, and also entered into partnership with a friend, J. C. Bors, who had a place of four hundred acres. Mr. Bors sold his property and went to Napa; and one year later Mr. Hahl sold out and bought three hundred twenty acres, the nucleus of his present ranch. He purchased quarter section after quarter section, until now he owns over 1,200 acres, which he has cleared and broken up. The ranch is located about ten miles east of Shandon, in the Red Hills section. It is supplied with an abundance of water, from springs and wells; and there is ample pasturage for the live stock. Here he engages in cattle-raising, specializing in Durham and Holstein cattle. His brand is bar H (— H), left hip. He has about four hundred acres under plow, two hundred fifty acres in grain. He operates his farm with one big team. In 1916, Mr. Hahl completed a new modern residence of the bungalow style, for which he hauled the lumber from Paso Robles. He has set out orchard and shade trees, and vegetable and berry gardens, near the house.

On December 12, 1914, Ernest A. Hahl was married, in San Francisco, to Mrs. Ruby (Eggleston) Morrish, who was born in Eureka, Nev. She is a daughter of Ruben Eggleston, a native of Auburn, N. Y. Her grandfather, John Eggleston, also came to California, but died in Salt Lake City. The family trace their history back to the Pilgrims who came over in the "Mayflower." Her father crossed the plains to California in 1849. He passed on to Nevada, where he was one of the well and favorably known pioneer prospectors and miners at Eureka and Virginia City. Later he came to California, and was engaged in mining in this state until the time of the mining excitement at Cripple Creek, Colo., when he went to that locality. A typical miner, he was interested in the Alaska boom, and afterwards in the mining operations at Goldfield, Nev. He now resides at Aransas Pass, Tex. Mrs. Hahl's mother was Mary McGinley, who was born in Folsom, Cal. She was a daughter of John McGinley, a native of northern Ireland, who came around Cape Horn to California when a boy of seventeen, arriving at San Francisco. For a time he worked in the mines, but later went onto a large ranch in Sacramento county. The big flood of 1862 washed away his buildings. He helped construct the levees. Some time after this, he engaged in the theatrical business. He ran an opera house in Reno, Nev., and one in Idaho, and another in Salt Lake City; but each burned down, and he became discouraged with the business. He died in Nevada.

There were two children in the family of Ruben and Mary (McGinley) Eggleston; and of these Mrs. Hahl is the elder. She received her education in the public schools of San Francisco and of Humboldt county. By her first marriage she had one daughter, Ruby Naomi (Morrish) Hall. Of her union with Mr. Hahl a son was born, Ernest August, Jr.

Mr. Hahl has been a trustee in Choice Valley district. Mrs. Hahl is a member of the Star King Chapter of the O. E. S., in San Francisco, and a trustee of Alliance school district.

**JOHN W. McALPIN.**—A resident of San Luis Obispo County since 1890, and a highly esteemed citizen of the vicinity of Creston, John W. McAlpin was born in London, England, in 1870. His father was also named John, and was a native of Perth, Scotland. The McAlpin family trace their ancestry back to about the tenth century, to Kenneth McAlpin, king of Scotland. The grandfather, John McAlpin, was also born in Perth; and he, as well as his son John, were country gentlemen, the latter spending many years in London. There the subject of this review was reared and received his education in private schools, later attending Albert Memorial College, in Suffolk.

Soon after his graduation, young John McAlpin came to California, locating in San Luis Obispo County, where he selected and purchased his present ranch of two hundred ten acres on the Santa Margarita road, near Creston. He has improved the property, and here he is successfully engaged in farming and stock-raising.

John W. McAlpin was married in San Francisco to Miss Alice Blake, a native of that city, and the daughter of Dr. James Blake, a prominent physician on Geary street. They have three children: Douglas Ian, Alice and Elizabeth.

Mr. McAlpin has reason to be proud of his Scotch lineage. He is a member of the Sons of St. George. In national politics he is a Democrat; while in matters of religion he is an Episcopalian.

**F. J. FILOUCHEAU.**—F. J. Filoucheau is a native son of California, born in San Juan Bautista, San Benito county, November 23, 1869. His father, Matthew Filoucheau, was a native of Bordeaux, France, and came to San Francisco in the pioneer days of California, when he was a young man. After he had clerked for a wholesale house in that city for a time, they sent him to Mazatlan, Mexico, and from there he came to San Juan, where he engaged in the mercantile business for many years. Afterwards he opened and conducted a restaurant, and became widely known as one of the finest chefs on the coast, his excellent menus giving him fame throughout the state. He died in 1894, aged sixty-four years. His wife was Albina Boronda, who was born near San Juan, the daughter of Camelo and Francisca (Castro) Boronda, both natives of California. She died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. R. F. Careaga. Matthew and Albina (Boronda) Filoucheau had ten children, only two of whom are living: the oldest, Maria Antonia, the widow of the late Ramon F. Careaga, who resides in San Jose; and the subject of our sketch, who is the second youngest of the family.

F. J. Filoucheau received his education in the public schools of San Jose. After leaving school he apprenticed himself to the tinsmith's trade, which he followed for about five years. He then gave up his trade to engage in the restaurant business in San Juan; and later he removed to Santa Barbara, where he became proprietor of the St. George Restaurant. In 1912, he came to Los Alamos as proprietor of the Depot Hotel, and also of the St. George Hotel, continuing here until 1913, when he sold out and opened the Hotel Camino Real at San Juan Bautista, on the state highway between Salinas and Gilroy. A year later, however, he sold out and returned to Los Alamos, where he remained on Mrs. Careaga's ranch for a year. In 1916, he bought the St. George Hotel, which he improved; and since then he has been its proprietor.

Being a fine chef, he is at the head of the culinary department; and he also directs the hotel and service. The meals at the St. George are excellent, and the hotel is well and favorably known.

Mr. Filoucheau was married, in San Juan Baptista, to Genevieve Ramoni, who was born in Hollister, the daughter of James Ramoni, a prominent pioneer contractor and builder, who later became a rancher. His wife was Francisca Williams, who comes of a very prominent old family, being related to the Carlises and Jessuruns of Los Angeles. Mr. and Mrs. Filoucheau have one child, Marguerite.

Mr. Filoucheau is a member of the I. O. O. F. S. In politics, he is a Democrat.

**ISAAC SIMS.**—One of the oldest pioneers of the Adelaida district in San Luis Obispo County, and for many years a farmer and blacksmith there, Isaac Sims was born in Indianapolis, Ind., April 5, 1838, a son of Mathew Sims, a native of Ohio, whose father, James Sims, was born in England and, coming to the United States, became a pioneer in Ohio, and later in Indianapolis. Here, for some time, James Sims followed his trade as a hatter, still later moving farther west and settling in Des Moines, Ia., where he continued at his trade. He next made his way to Springfield, Mo.; and from there, in 1857, he came to California. He and his wife had fourteen children, one of whom, James Washington Sims, had come to this state in 1849. Mathew Sims accompanied his father in 1857. The old gentleman and his family lived in Half Moon Bay for a time, later moving to Sacramento county, and then to Mason Valley, near Carson City, Nev., where he died at the age of ninety-seven years, hale and hearty to the last.

Mathew Sims was married in Indiana to Miss Nancy Devec, who was born in Ohio. He was a millwright and miller, and followed his trade in Indiana, and later in Des Moines, Ia., and in Springfield, Mo. In 1857 he came with his father across the plains to California, in the train known as the Captain Derby train, consisting of one hundred men, with ox teams and about five hundred head of cattle. Their numbers insured them from Indian attacks and the train came through in safety. Captain Derby had made four trips across the plains and knew Indian character well. At different times he let the Indians take the cattle to graze over night, and they returned them in the morning. In California, Mathew Sims engaged in farming at Half Moon Bay. Later he removed to the vicinity of Sacramento, and then to Lodi, where he was engaged as a wagon-maker. He went from there to Mason Valley, Nev., and ran a wagon shop. Here he died at the age of seventy-six years; and his wife died the year following at the same age. Of their eleven children, the subject of this sketch was the fourth in order of birth, and is the only one living.

Isaac Sims attended the pioneer schools in Springfield, Mo., and had an uneventful life up to 1857, when he crossed the plains with his parents, driving an ox team all the way, and taking six months for the trip. After the family had settled at Half Moon Bay, he went to school two seasons and then learned the blacksmith's trade, working in a shop near Brighton, Sacramento county. In 1866 he went to Carson City, Nev., and bought an interest in a blacksmith shop, where he continued in business about five years. He then opened a blacksmith shop in Mason Valley, where the Sims families were among the early pioneer settlers, and where Isaac remained about five years.



In June, 1876, he came back to California and settled for a time in San Luis Obispo County, but soon went back to Nevada and engaged in blacksmithing in Carson City. He returned to this county, however, and in October, 1878, homesteaded one hundred sixty acres of land in the Adelaida district, the nucleus of his present ranch. Here he made a home, and subdued and improved the land. He built a shop and did blacksmithing until 1913, when he retired from the trade. In the meantime he was engaged in grain-growing and stock-raising, and added to his property one hundred sixty acres, adjoining, by purchase. Cloverdale Ranch comprises three hundred twenty acres lying in the northern part of the Adelaida district, twelve miles from Paso Robles. It is well named for the abundance of clover grown on the place.

On November 18, 1870, in Stockton, Mr. Sims was united in marriage with Miss Adeline Melissa Etta Stoker, a native of Iowa, born near Council Bluffs, a daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Burcham) Stoker, who had removed from Indiana to Missouri, and then to Council Bluffs, where they were pioneers. In 1859 they came across the plains in an ox team train as far as Salt Lake, bringing their five children with them. There they passed the winter; and in the spring of 1860 they arrived at Placerville. In the fall of that year they located on a ranch near Sacramento, going thence to Nevada. The parents of Mrs. Sims spent their last days with her. Of their eleven children, she is the sixth in order of birth. She was educated in the public schools at Sheldon, Cal. Mr. and Mrs. Sims have raised a nephew, Arthur L. Withrew, who resides in the Adelaida district.

Mr. Sims is a charter member of Cayucos Lodge, I. O. O. F. In national politics he is a Democrat. Always interested in the cause of education, he has served as a school trustee of Lincoln district for over sixteen years, declining to serve longer. The site for the schoolhouse of this district was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Sims.

**RISDOM W. ROBERTSON.**—The late proprietor of Hotel Margarita, Risdom W. Robertson, was born near Dyersburg, Tenn., December 5, 1859, a son of Henry and Mary (Jones) Robertson, who were born in Tennessee and North Carolina respectively. The paternal grandfather, Risdom Robertson, was of Scotch descent, and migrated to Tennessee, where he became a planter. On the maternal side, the grandfather, Humphrey Jones, came from North Carolina to Tennessee, when his daughter Mary was eight years old. Henry and Mary Robertson followed farming in Tennessee during their active life, and both died there. Seven children were born into their home: Noah and Lizzie, now Mrs. Ward, who reside in Tennessee; Risdom W., deceased, and Mary, now Mrs. S. P. Robertson, of Santa Margarita; Nannie, now Mrs. W. L. Robertson, of Arlington, Wash.; Sally, now Mrs. Worrel, who lives in Tennessee; and Mattie, Mrs. Ferguson, who died in Seattle, Wash.

Risdom W. Robertson was raised on a farm, and his education was secured in the local schools and academies, after which he taught school for a time. Later he engaged in the merchandise business in Friendship, Tenn. Coming to Washington, then a territory, he homesteaded and took a pre-emption, and a timber claim, and engaged in the lumber business. He then built a hotel in Arlington, and carried on the business until ill health necessitated his seeking a milder climate. In 1896 he sold out and came to California, and for three years was located in San Miguel. In 1899 he purchased the hotel in Santa Margarita, moved there and continued the business

he had become interested in while in Washington. Mr. Robertson bought the opposite corner, 75x150 feet in size, and built the Santa Margarita Garage, a fire-proof structure, and the largest in town. Further to improve the property, he erected a residence in the rear. He also owned the Robertson Hall, in the rear of the hotel. He was interested in building up the town, and to him much credit is due for his enterprise and public spirit. He was a prominent member of the Odd Fellows. In politics, he supported Republican candidates.

Near Friendship, Tenn., on November 30, 1891, occurred the marriage of R. W. Robertson with Miss Julia Bryant, who was born in that locality. She was a daughter of William Bryant, a native of South Carolina, who moved to North Carolina. He served in the Confederate army during the Civil War. He married Miss Elmina Seapaugh, a native of North Carolina, of German descent; and they moved to the vicinity of Friendship, Tenn., where they engaged in farming, and where he still resides. There the mother died in 1905. They had six children, four of whom are living, Mrs. Robertson being the oldest and the only one on the Coast.

Since the death of her husband, on February 8, 1916, Mrs. Robertson has continued the hotel business, and has also looked after the other property interests. She has two children: Nellie, now Mrs. Walter Walker, of Taft, Cal.; and Callie, who resides with her mother. Both daughters were educated in the Paso Robles high school. Like her late husband, Mrs. Robertson is a supporter of the principles of the Republican party.

**ANDREW H. IVERSEN.**—A progressive and energetic native son who is making good as a grain-raiser on the Estrella ranch. Andrew H. Iversen was born on December 26, 1886. He is a son of C. A. Iversen, who is mentioned elsewhere in this work. Andrew spent his childhood on the farm, and went to the public schools in the Union district. When a lad he began to learn the details of grain-farming under his father; and for years he remained with him on the home farm.

Andrew H. Iversen was married on April 14, 1909, to Miss Margartha Paulus, a native of Missouri, who came with her parents to this county when she was a child. She is a daughter of P. C. and Louisa Paulus, who were farmers in the Geneseo district, and who now reside in Union. Mr. and Mrs. Iversen have four children: Edith, Howard, Elmer and Edward.

After his marriage Andrew Iversen continued with his father on the Iversen ranch until 1911, when he leased the Mrs. V. E. Brooks place of four hundred eighty acres, and for the ensuing four years engaged in grain-raising there. He then moved to the Estrella ranch, where he had leased a large tract in partnership with H. B. McWilliams. They have about 1,000 acres of this tract seeded to grain. One hundred acres is devoted to barley; but wheat is their main crop. They use two twelve-horse teams for operating the ranch.

Mr. Iversen is a stockholder in the Farmers Alliance Business Association of Paso Robles, and also in the Paso Robles & Shandon Telephone Co.; and he was instrumental in building the side lines. He is a partner with his father, C. A. Iversen, and C. F. Iversen, in one hundred sixty acres of land near Union, suitable for almonds, to which they have set out twenty-six acres. He is also interested in the Good Will Mining Co., at Los Osos. He is a member and clerk of the board of trustees of the Phillips school district. He was made a Mason in Paso Robles Lodge, No. 286, F. & A. M.

**OSCAR E. HALLSTROM.**—A native of Iowa, born near Red Oak, on April 30, 1879, Oscar E. Hallstrom is a son of Nicholas Hallstrom, a blacksmith by trade, who was born in Sweden, and settled in Iowa when a young man. He followed his trade in that state and there married, later removing to Polk county, Neb., where he became a farmer. In 1887 he came to California and located in San Luis Obispo County, where he bought one of the first tracts laid out by Anderson on the Dresser ranch at Linne. He had one hundred fifty acres of fine land; and here he built a brick house, and engaged in farming until his death about nineteen years ago. The mother died when Oscar was a babe of eighteen months.

Oscar Hallstrom was reared in Nebraska until he was nine years of age, when he was brought to this state by his father and attended the public schools in the vicinity of Linne. When a boy he became familiar with the details of successful grain farming while assisting his father on the home place; and after his father's death, he ran the ranch for two years. He then went to Chino and for one year worked at drilling water wells. Returning to Linne, he farmed the old home place, and one hundred sixty acres adjoining, for six years. With the proceeds he bought an alfalfa ranch near Chino, and the following four years were spent in raising hay. He liked grain farming better; and so he again came back to San Luis Obispo County and engaged in that vocation. He now leases the Woods place of six hundred forty acres six miles south of Shandon, where he is successfully carrying out his ideas, and has about three hundred fifty acres in grain, principally wheat. In the cultivation of his ranch he uses a ten-horse team and the necessary modern implements. He has a blacksmith shop on the place, where he does horseshoeing and repair work on the farm machinery.

Mr. Hallstrom was reared in the Baptist Church, and still holds to that faith. In politics he is a Democrat. He has served as a trustee of the Linne school district for several years. Mr. Hallstrom is a self-made man and holds the respect of all with whom he has been associated both in business and in social circles.

**ISAAC NEWTON TRUESDALE.**—It is to the pioneers that the County of San Luis Obispo is indebted for much of her prosperity, for they came to this wilderness in an early day, blazed the trails over almost impassable sections of timbered mountains, and eventually brought order out of chaos and established markets and systems of transportation, so that in this later day their descendants and others may enjoy life in quiet contentment. Such a man is Isaac Newton Truesdale, one of the oldest settlers of the Cholame district, where he has lived since the fall of 1885, and where he owns two hundred thirty-three acres of land at the junction of the Cholame and San Juan valleys, about one and one-half miles above Shandon. He was born in Brookfield, Trumble county, O., on August 2, 1846, a son of Jonathan Hoover Truesdale, a native of Mercer county, Pa., where he was born in 1806. Jonathan Truesdale had learned the trade of a wagon-maker in Youngstown, O., and became a carpenter in Trumble county, and later in Allen county, where he died at the age of seventy-four years. The mother, Matilda (Keefer) Truesdale, was a Virginian, born on April 5, 1817, who, after the death of her husband, came to California and died at Shandon in 1895, aged about seventy-eight.

The fourth child in the family of seven who grew to mature years, Isaac N. was brought up near Lima, in Allen county, O., and was educated in the

public schools. From school he volunteered for service in the Civil War, on February 14, 1865, in Company C, 192nd Ohio Volunteer Infantry, being mustered in for one year, and was sent into the Shenandoah valley. He served faithfully through the balance of the conflict, and was mustered out on September 7, 1865, at the close of the war. He had two brothers in the service: John Milton, of Co. B, 99th Ohio, who died in the service; and George K., of the 81st Ohio, who was promoted to First Lieutenant of Co. B, 151st Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and was wounded in service.

The war over, Mr. Truesdale resumed his studies for a time, and then learned the painter and decorator's trade in Lima, O., and engaged in business as a contracting decorator. He was married near Beaver Dam, in Allen county, on September 16, 1875, to Miss Aurilla D. Hollen. She was born in that county, a daughter of Henry D. V. and Nancy H. (Nichols) Hollen, natives of Ohio and Pennsylvania respectively. The father died and the mother, now Mrs. Richards, lives on a homestead on San Juan creek. Mrs. Truesdale is the second in order of birth of eight children.

After his marriage, Mr. Truesdale resumed his trade, and followed contracting and painting in Lima until 1885, when he decided to come to California. He arrived in Los Angeles, and soon after came up into San Luis Obispo County, where he pre-empted one hundred sixty acres near Cholame and began to make improvements, erecting buildings and breaking and clearing the land. Here, for some years, he followed farming. He came to this state on account of his health, which he gradually recovered, although it was ten years before he had fully regained his strength. In 1905 he went to the San Joaquin valley and began work again as a painter, at which he has continued ever since. He has worked at his trade throughout San Luis Obispo County and the adjoining counties.

Mr. Truesdale has bought land adjacent to his property, and now has two hundred thirty-three acres in a highly cultivated condition, with fine improvements—wells, windmills and tanks, and two sets of farm buildings. For some years he has rented the ranch to his son Smith, while he himself follows his trade as a painter.

Four children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Truesdale: Harry A., employed in the post office at San Luis Obispo; Dwelle Smith, who is operating the home ranch; Bina U., Mrs. Lampson, of Shandon; and Robert Lincoln, of Shandon.

Mr. Truesdale has been a school trustee of Shandon district, and for three years was clerk of the board. He is a member of Fred Steele Post, No. 70, G. A. R., of San Luis Obispo, and his wife belongs to the Woman's Relief Corps of that city. Both are members of the local Methodist Church since its organization. They helped build the church, and Mr. Truesdale has been one of the trustees, while Mrs. Truesdale was superintendent of the Sunday school. They are both strong for temperance, and are Republicans.

**FRANK J. BOWERS.**—The well-known firm of Bowers and Parnell, Ford agents and proprietors of the Santa Maria Garage, located on Broadway at Church street, in Santa Maria, of which F. J. Bowers is senior member, is one of the going concerns of the city, and since its establishment on May 1, 1916, has taken its place in the business circles of Santa Barbara county. Mr. Bowers was born at Camden, N. Y., October 3, 1864, a son of Conrad and Mary Bowers. The father was of German descent, born in New York State, and was a railroad builder. Both he and his wife are now deceased.

The fourth in a family of eight children, F. J. Bowers attended school until he was nine, and then went to work in a factory. This kind of employment he followed in various places, until he went into business on his own account. From the age of twenty he has held responsible positions, starting in by firing the boilers in a sugar factory at Rome, N. Y., then being promoted to the position of assistant superintendent. His next post was in the beet sugar factory at Binghamton, N. Y., filling the same responsible position as before. He then came West and was made assistant superintendent of the factory of the Great Western Sugar Co. at Easton, Colo., filled the position one year, and was then sent to Windsor, the same state.

There Mr. Bowers filled the same position for the same company until 1905, when he came to California and for one year served as assistant superintendent of the Betteravia Sugar Factory for the Union Sugar Co. He was promoted to the superintendency of the factory, a position he filled with satisfaction to the company and the employees until he resigned, to enter into his present business. During the eleven years he was connected with this great industry, Mr. Bowers, more than any other, planned and executed nearly every advance made towards enlarging the factory and its operations; and he understands every detail of making sugar from the raw product.

On May 1, 1916, with Harry Parnell, the Santa Maria Garage was established, and modern machinery was installed for the repairing of all kinds of machinery and engine work, and a pattern shop was built. The firm secured the agency for the Ford automobile and since their opening have sold many car loads of machines. That both of the partners are hustlers speaks for itself; they are energetic, public-spirited and heartily in accord with the progressive movements for the upbuilding of this section of the state.

Mr. Bowers was married in Rome, N. Y., to Miss Catherine Baulig, daughter of Anthony Baulig, a native of Rome, N. Y. Of this union five children have been born: Genevieve, who married Oscar Doane of Betteravia; Loretta, the wife of Walter Stokes of Guadalupe; Winnifred; Leona; and Clifton. Mr. Bowers is a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 264, B. P. O. Elks, and of the Santa Maria Lodge No. 180, K. O. T. M. During the years of his association with the Santa Maria valley, Mr. Bowers has gained prestige year by year as a man of square dealing and strict integrity.

**EUGENE D. RUBEL.**—The ambitious nature of Eugene D. Rubel has found an outlet in his activities as proprietor of the Crescent Garage in Santa Maria, where he is proving the desirability of this part of California as a business center. A native of Germany, he was born in Niedersteffenbach, Rhine province, October 20, 1880, a son of Daniel and Charlotte (Brill) Rubel, both born and reared in Germany, who brought their family to the United States in 1886. On arrival, the family settled in Rockford, Ill., where the six children attended school. Both parents and the children are now deceased, with the exception of Eugene D.

When a lad of six years, Eugene D. came with his parents to this country and attended the public schools in Rockford, afterwards going to work for Emerson Talcott & Co., manufacturers of agricultural implements in that city. Later he worked on various farms in Winnebago county, Ill., until coming to California in 1902.

He arrived in Santa Maria in 1905 and soon after organized the Crescent Garage with the following officers: J. U. Stair, president; E. D. Rubel, vice-president; G. H. Youngling, secretary; C. W. Murdock, treasurer. The busi-

ness was begun on a small scale and gradually grew in volume, and in five months after opening the establishment for business, Mr. Rubel began buying up the stock owned by the other shareholders, and since March 1, 1914, has been sole proprietor. The business has grown rapidly, an extensive machine shop for doing all kinds of automobile and auto engine repairing is maintained, a general garage business is carried on and every department is equipped with the most modern appliances for facilitating the business.

Since its opening, too, the garage has been enlarged from time to time by four additions; the last change made was the leasing of the A. H. Froom building where Mr. Rubel has installed a complete line of motor car parts and accessories, located his main office, and fitted up a modern waiting room for ladies in the space formerly taken up by his office. He is agent for the Vim truck, Dodge Bros. cars, Hudson and Buick, and has sold his share of motor cars throughout the valley. He has always been square in his dealings with the public, and strictly honest and just with his employes, who now number fifteen, all experienced workmen. His garage and machine shop at 201 to 209 South Broadway is a busy plant, covering half a block.

In 1910 Mr. Rubel was united in marriage with Miss Nellie Voight, a daughter of the late Albert Voight, a prominent merchant of Nelson, Neb., her grandfather, William Ziock, also deceased, having been a wealthy manufacturer in Rockford, Ill., and one of the organizers of the Burson Knitting Works, and the Rockford Mitten & Hosiery Co. Mrs. Rubel is a graduate of the Rockford College, and supplemented her education by three years of travel in Europe. She is a lady of many accomplishments and the mother of three bright and interesting children, Edward, Catherine and Dorothy. Mr. and Mrs. Rubel's home on Cypress street is one of comfort and cheer. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, is a man of unquestioned integrity, makes and retains friends, and shows his public spirit by giving his support and co-operation to all movements for the betterment of the community.

**VALLEY SAVINGS BANK.**—A subsidiary of the Bank of Santa Maria, the Valley Savings Bank, organized September 1, 1901, with a capital of \$25,000, is nevertheless an independent entity. The directors at that time were Paul O. Tietzen, M. Thornburg, William H. Rice, L. E. Blochman, and A. J. Souza; W. H. Rice was elected president and Thos. B. Adam was appointed cashier of the institution.

The bank wields a great influence in the Santa Maria valley, and its patrons include the professional and business men and ranchers, with many women and children who have acquired the excellent habit of saving. The bank has paid a dividend of seven per cent annually on its original capital.

The directors now serving are W. H. Rice, A. J. Souza, John G. Prell, Paul O. Tietzen, and Guy L. Goodwin. On December 31, 1916, the resources of this financial institution had reached \$336,476.35. It is housed in the old bank building on Main street, where it has ample quarters and facilities for the conduct of its growing business.

**WILLIAM MACDONALD.**—A native of Scotland, William Macdonald was born at Glasgow, March 1, 1882, a son of John and Margaret (Brodie) Macdonald, also natives of that country, who came to the United States and settled in Wisconsin in 1885, one year later moving to Dell Rapids, S. Dak., where the father opened a stone and granite quarry. They eventually came to California, settling in Santa Rosa; and there the father died, in 1914, aged seventy years. The widow is still living in that place.

William Macdonald was but three years old when his parents came to the United States and settled in Dell Rapids. There he graduated from the high school with the class of 1901, and then attended the University of South Dakota at Vermilion for two years, after which he went to Prescott, Ariz., and became bookkeeper for a mining company. In 1904 Mr. Macdonald entered the employ of Fairbanks, Morse & Company in Los Angeles, and a short time later was sent to Santa Maria to take charge of their work. For ten years he was their general agent, with headquarters at Santa Maria and territory extending from Paso Robles to Santa Barbara.

During these years, Mr. Macdonald became very well acquainted in the section covered by his territory, was always square in dealing with the public and so easily built up a good reputation. In 1914, therefore, he felt justified in engaging in business for himself and opened his present place in Santa Maria, where he deals in all kinds of machinery and supplies, windmills and accessories, pumps and electrical machinery, besides having the agency for the Fairbanks Morse and Co.'s line of goods.

Mr. Macdonald was united in marriage with Miss Belle Glines, daughter of Cassius H. Glines, and they reside in their beautiful bungalow home at 512 South Broadway. He is a member of Hesperian Lodge No. 264, F. & A. M., of which he was master in 1916, is also a member of the Knights of Pythias, and both himself and wife are members of the Eastern Star. Mr. Macdonald is a public-spirited, progressive citizen, interested in everything for the good of the community, and is serving as a trustee of Reclamation District No. 798.

**SANTA MARIA VALLEY RAILROAD.**—This railroad, with its twenty-three miles of track, is one of the paying properties of the valley, doing exclusively a freight business. Built by private capital in 1911, as a feeder to the main line of the Southern Pacific, its main line runs from Guadalupe, where it connects with the Southern Pacific, to Roadamite, in Santa Barbara county. A branch line of two and one-half miles also runs from Betteravia Junction to Betteravia.

The object of building the road was to secure an outlet for the heavy freighting out of the valley, the oil fields, Union Sugar Company's factory at Betteravia and the extensive warehouses of the Southern Pacific Milling Co. at Guadalupe, Santa Maria and Gates. The officers of the railway company are Los Angeles capitalists: C. W. Gates, president; O. C. Edwards, vice president; E. J. Miley, secretary; Jay Spence, treasurer; M. L. Shearin, superintendent, and J. M. Davis, auditor, both of Santa Maria.

**ROBERT M. CONKEY.**—The editor and general manager of the Santa Maria Graphic, an eight-page weekly, published every Saturday, is Robert M. Conkey, son of J. F. Conkey, who owns the paper and was its editor until June, 1916, when he assumed the duties of postmaster. He was born at Saratoga Springs, N. Y., August 3, 1875, and attended the grammar and high schools of the Empire State until coming to California in 1892 with his parents, who settled in San Jacinto, Riverside county. Here he began working in the office of the Register. He ran the first sheet of paper through the press for the first paper started in Hemet. Later, he spent one year in the Government Indian service, at the Indian agency on Tule river near San Jacinto. In 1896 he went to San Jose, and thereafter was engaged in the printing business in San Francisco and San Jose. He then engaged in the newspaper business



with his father on the Graphic, and has worked his own way to his present position in the newspaper world of California.

The Graphic is a newsy sheet, entirely set up in the office in Santa Maria, and is the leading paper of the valley. The paper, founded by John Kryder about 1886, was formerly the Nipomo News; but when Nipomo ceased to be a "live" town, the proprietor moved his plant to Santa Maria, that place being then in its "swaddling clothes." The paper has never missed publication of an issue, has been the Democratic organ of the northern part of Santa Barbara county, and in fact is the only out-and-out Democratic paper in the county.

The paper has been under several different managements and has had different editors, among whom W. E. Miscal and L. C. McKenny are acknowledged to have been the ablest until the management and ownership went into the hands of J. F. Conkey in 1906. It has constantly grown in favor and circulation under his leadership and is recognized as the "home paper" throughout the entire valley. To its influence is due the \$10,000 public library building, the good roads movement, city street improvements, and paving, which cost \$35,000. It championed the sewer system, and the building of the new steel bridge in 1912 at a cost of \$80,000, two miles north on the state highway. The Graphic stands for progress and every good thing for Santa Maria and its valley, and for county, state and nation.

**HENRY JOHN ABELS.**—The name which Henry John Abels bears is one long known and honorably associated with the history of California. His father, Henry Abels, born in Prussia, was educated in German schools, entered the army and served his time, as is customary in Germany. He learned the trade of harness and saddle maker, and came to the United States about 1856, and to California soon after. He was married in San Francisco to Salome Blaze, who was born in German Switzerland. Of their children, only two grew up, Henry John and Sally, both of Santa Maria. Henry Abels came to San Luis Obispo and some years later removed to the Santa Maria valley. In 1882 he opened a harness and saddlery shop in Santa Maria, being one of the pioneer business men of the little town. As he prospered, he invested in property and erected business blocks and residences; and he made this his home until his death, in September, 1912, at the age of seventy-eight.

Henry J. Abels was born July 26, 1876, in San Luis Obispo, and was six years old when his parents settled in Santa Maria. He attended the San Luis Obispo and Washington schools, supplementing his public school course by a business course in the International Correspondence School of Scranton. At the age of eighteen, he went to work in A. Ward's harness shop and spent four years at the trade. He was then appointed U. S. Forest Ranger for the Santa Barbara forest reserve, being one of the first U. S. rangers, and at the same time he held the position of chief deputy game warden, becoming county game warden in 1899, in which office he served two terms of four years. He was appointed regular State Deputy Fish and Game Commissioner for Santa Barbara county, holding the position under civil service, which later became District No. 4, a position Mr. Abels still holds. In 1917, by unanimous vote of the board of supervisors, Mr. Abels was appointed Game Warden of Santa Barbara county.

Like his father, Mr. Abels has confidence in the future of Santa Maria and invests his surplus cash in real estate and in erecting business houses and residences; and with his sister he is owner of valuable holdings in the city. In the discharge of his official duty he acts without fear or favor, and the



ability shown by him in the execution of his office is recognized generally. Though duly considerate of those with whom he has to deal, he is stern in enforcing the law. His life has not been free from menace, for in the discharge of his duties he has been threatened many times. He performs police duty under M. J. Connell, State Fish and Game Commissioner of Los Angeles, holding the position upon the latter's recommendation. His entire time is devoted to the discharge of his official duties.

March 2, 1907, Mr. Abels was united in marriage with Miss Rosa Weber, daughter of Rheinhold Weber, a pioneer plumber and tinsmith of Santa Maria; and they have two children: Henry John, Jr., and Helen E. Mrs. Abels is a member of the Eastern Star. Mr. Abels is a member and also a past master of Hesperian Lodge No. 264, F. & A. M., and a member of Corinthian Chapter No. 51, R. A. M., of Santa Barbara; Santa Barbara Council No. 19, R. & S. M.; St. Omar Commandery No. 30, K. T.; Al Malaikah Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. of Los Angeles; and Santa Maria Lodge No. 90, K. of P. He and his wife reside in their pleasant home at 208 North Lincoln Street, where they enjoy the comforts of life and the companionship of their many friends.

**HARRY PARNELL.**—A first-class engineer and mechanic, and junior member of the firm of Bowers & Parnell, proprietors of the Santa Maria Garage at Broadway and Church streets, Harry Parnell stands high in business circles of the city and throughout the valley. He was born in Devonshire, England, October 28, 1873, educated in the common schools, and grew up there until he was fifteen, when, with his parents, Stephen H. and Helen (Ewens) Parnell, he emigrated to America. The family settled at Mount Vernon, Ohio, the father being employed by the C. & G. Cooper Company, manufacturers of Corliss engines.

The eldest of five children born to his parents, Harry Parnell attended the schools of Mt. Vernon one term, then went into the factory of C. & G. Cooper Company to learn the trade of machinist and engineer, served a four years' apprenticeship and after mastering the trade remained with the company until 1909. He arrived in California in December of that year, and on January 1, 1910, entered the employ of the Union Sugar Co. at Betteravia, and for two and one-half years held the position of engineer. Then he was made chief overseer of pumps, water works, gas engines, etc., and continued until March 1, 1916, when he accepted the position of assistant engineer for the Dutch Shell Oil Co. at Martinez. Soon after starting at work he had the misfortune to lose the end of one of his thumbs, and was laid up.

While employed at the Betteravia plant, Mr. Parnell became very well acquainted with Mr. Bowers; a warm friendship sprang up between the two men, and when a proposition was made that they enter into business for themselves, they soon reached an understanding by which their interests were consolidated. So the firm of Bowers & Parnell came into existence; but for more complete data of the business, see the sketch of F. J. Bowers on another page of this work.

July 4, 1896, Mr. Parnell was united in marriage with Miss Lucy Rebecca Waldon, daughter of James L. Waldon, a civil engineer of London, and they have two children—Helen Lois, a graduate of the Santa Maria high school, Class of '16, and Florence Patria. In politics Mr. Parnell is a Republican. While living in Mt. Vernon he served in the city council for two years. He belongs to Mt. Zion Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Mt. Vernon, and both he and

his wife are members of the Eastern Star. His wife is a member of Union L. O. E. No. 45, K. of P., and of the M. W. A. of that city. The family attend the Episcopal church. In the seven years that Mr. Parnell has been a resident of this valley he has made a host of friends who have been drawn to him by his cheerful disposition and high moral character.

**J. W. ATKINSON.**—Few names in the long and illustrious roster of native Californians have become more inseparably associated with the history of the development of Santa Maria valley than that of J. W. Atkinson, who, as chemist, man of affairs, and manager of the Union Sugar Co., has not only promoted an enterprise of enormous importance, but has proved the value, in the highest sense, of personal character and its usefulness and influence in relation to good citizenship. In Placer county's picturesquely-named little community of Foresthill Mr. Atkinson was born on September 28, 1861, in the very dark and electrically-charged period when the great military and civil leaders of the disputing and fast-separating sections were drilling, organizing and preparing for the first American internecine conflict. This historical circumstance is the more interesting from the fact that the distinguished Betteravian may boast of blood that is the result of the union of Northern and Southern brain and sinew—the amalgamation of what is best in the Pilgrim and the Cavalier.

His father, who was born in Bowling Green, Va., a descendant of the Atkinsons who came from England to that State in 1688, was named John Wesley Atkinson, and was a near relation to William Yates Atkinson, the reformed Governor of Georgia. His mother, who resides in Berkeley, was Miss Susan Elizabeth Perkins. The Perkins family trace their lineage back to New England and the "Mayflower." Mr. and Mrs. John Wesley Atkinson, Sr., had two children: the subject of our sketch, and Mrs. Arthur Gray, who resides at Washington, D. C. The father was a miner all his life, and came to California in 1850, where he mined for gold in Placer county in the early days of the mining excitement. He died at Betteravia.

J. W. Atkinson, having finished with the public schools of Foresthill and vicinity, moved about considerably, making his way to the various gold mining districts in California and also at Gold Hill, Nev. He went to public school for a while and then to the California Military Academy at Oakland. He entered the University of California in 1878, and took especially a chemistry course. In 1882, he graduated from the University of California and two years later he began actual work as a chemist.

His first engagement was with the American Sugar Refinery at San Francisco, and in a short time he became their superintendent. From there he went to Alvarado and took charge of the factory of the Alvarado Sugar Co., then the only sugar beet concern in the United States. This made him a co-worker with, and personal friend of, E. H. Dyer, father of the beet sugar industry of the United States, and permitted him to become a pioneer in the same industrial venture of such great significance. While at Alvarado he married Miss Kathryn Kable, by whom he had two children—Edith and Elizabeth.

In 1899, he came as the representative of the Union Sugar Co., a corporation made up of San Francisco capitalists, to the Santa Maria valley; and having looked over the land in the vicinity of Betteravia, he helped place their factory there and to lay out their great irrigation system. He had much to do with the building of the railroad through the valley, and with making

it an auxiliary to the activities of the sugar factory. At that time the land was only a stretch of sheep pasture, covered everywhere with sage-brush; but in a short time, under the magic touch of Mr. Atkinson, there was a marvelous transformation, and the company now has over ten thousand acres under irrigation and produces a hundred thousand tons of sugar beets per year, from which about sixteen thousand tons of sugar is made. At first the enterprise did not prosper, but when Mr. Atkinson was made superintendent and given the entire management, there was an immediate change for the better, both in the prospects of the company and in the actual output. Now Mr. Atkinson manages everything, including the Union Commercial Co., which is a subsidiary to the Union Sugar Co., and a large and well-stocked general merchandise store.

This sugar factory is the largest sugar industry in Santa Barbara county, and pays the heaviest sugar tax, expending more money than any other similar business in that county. And it feeds with its surplus beet pulp more than six thousand head of cattle owned by Wilson & Co. The head office of the Union Sugar Co. is in the Alaska Commercial building at San Francisco, and the chief officers are P. C. Drescher, president; E. R. Lillienthal, vice-president; George E. Springer, secretary; J. W. Atkinson, manager; M. M. Purkiss, agriculturist; J. T. Avington, office manager; J. R. Rogers, superintendent of the factory; Alfred Palmer, master mechanic; W. J. Williams, technical superintendent; I. M. Burola, storekeeper Union Commercial Co.; J. P. de l'Eau, consulting engineer; John L. Harris, assistant agriculturist; Walter Deising, assistant agriculturist at Harris Station. Directors: P. C. Drescher, Sacramento; E. L. Lillienthal, Lawrence Harris, H. S. Crocker, A. Haas, Joseph Hyman, and J. K. Moffatt, Berkeley and San Francisco.

**HARRY C. SAUNDERS.**—The leading tailoring establishment in Santa Maria is presided over by its clever proprietor, H. C. Saunders, better known by all who know him well as "Harry," a native son of Santa Barbara county. He was born in Lompoc, May 2, 1885, a son of William A. and Ella (Ruffner) Saunders, early settlers of Santa Cruz, who later removed to Lompoc, where they were married. There the father became favorably known, serving in the city council for years, and becoming the leading grocer for many years. He died in Lompoc in 1910, aged fifty-eight years; the widow still resides there, as does her other child, a son, Ray B. Saunders.

His school days over, Harry Saunders started out in the clothing business for himself and for seven years conducted a clothing and men's furnishing goods store at Lompoc. After selling out, he was in the employ for a year of Mullen & Bluett of Los Angeles. In 1913 Mr. Saunders returned to his native county and in Santa Maria opened a tailoring establishment which has grown from a small beginning to a business of large proportions. By square dealing and strict attention to his customers, he has built up a very profitable business. He employs the most experienced workmen known to the trade, is courteous and obliging, and numbers among his patrons the leading professional, business and oil men, as well as the ranchers, of the valley. He has in stock at all times a complete line of domestic and imported goods, and does a cleaning and repairing business.

Mr. Saunders is a member of the Moose and Red Men of Santa Maria. He was married at Lompoc to Miss Grace Hobson, who was born in Santa Cruz, a daughter of J. W. Hobson, road engineer for the Atascadero Colony in San Luis Obispo County. Mr. and Mrs. Saunders are parents of

two unusually bright daughters, Leola and Wilma. They are close and popular in their social set, and have an increasing circle of friends in their community.

**MRS. GEORGE CHAFFIN.**—The influence wielded by women in the cause of education finds an illustration in the work accomplished by Mrs. George Chaffin, née Sarah E. Elvidge, as one of the trustees of the Washington school district. She was born in Nottinghamshire, England, a daughter of Joseph and Stella (Spencer) Elvidge, and was brought by them to America when a child of six years. They settled in Santa Maria and here she attended the public schools and grew to maturity. Here also, on March 25, 1908, she was united in marriage with George W. Chaffin.

A native of Ohio, he was born January 15, 1881, near Portsmouth, was educated in the public schools there and came with his parents to California when he was nineteen. With commendable spirit, when he has twenty-one, he took up a homestead of one hundred sixty acres in the Cuyama valley. Recently Mr. and Mrs. Chaffin purchased forty acres east of the Orcutt road between Santa Maria and that town. Here they have a comfortable home which is blessed with two bright children, Lelia Vivian and George William.

Ever interested in all things making for the good of the schools and the building up of the valley, Mrs. Chaffin permitted her name to come before the people of her district for a member of the board of trustees of the Washington school district, and she was elected by a large majority. Since that time she has given good satisfaction in her official capacity, devoting her best efforts to furthering the cause of education and to working in harmony with the teacher and pupils.

**ROSAMEL CASTRO AND VICENTE CASTRO.**—No finer family could better serve to stimulate confidence in the upward trend of the human race and the persistence of those dominant qualities characteristic of a family distinguished for progress and success, than the example daily set by Rosamel Castro, the present-day representative of an old Spanish family renowned for its hospitality and proud of its contributions, first to the founding here of a state, and secondly to the developing and expanding of the great California commonwealth. Mr. Castro's great-grandfather was Joaquin Castro, a native of Spain, while his great-grandmother, also an early settler, came from France. His grandfather, Rafael Castro, on the other hand, was born at Santa Cruz, where he was well-known both as a large landowner and as a prominent physician and surgeon, who performed many difficult operations, but had for his motto, "No cure, no pay." Rafael was also a leading politician, who held various offices from the early thirties, having been alcalde in 1836, and elector in 1845. Rafael's wife before her marriage was Soledad Cota, and the couple had eight children. Jose Maria was the eldest; then came Francisco, Jose Antonio and Maria, as well as Maria de los Angeles, and after that Vicente Rafaela and Agustias.

Vicente Castro was born in Santa Cruz November 25, 1835, and reared in that city; and in June, 1866, he was married at San Jose to Miss Vicenta Pico, a daughter of Antonio Maria Pico, whose father was Jose Dolores Pico. Born in 1808, he was a Republican elector in 1861, and appointed by President Lincoln United State Register of the Land Office at Los Angeles, from which post he resigned in 1862, dying in 1869. In the meantime, as an early Spanish Mexican, he had purchased the San Rafael Mission estate as far back as 1826, had become second alcalde in 1847 and prefect in 1849, and had found him-

self embroiled with the Mexican authorities through having favored the cause of the United States. His wife was Pilar Bernal before her marriage, and she became the mother of three sons and three daughters. Among these three Pico sisters—one of whom, Vicenta, was chosen by Vicente Castro to be his wife—one became famous for having raised the first American flag unfurled at San Jose. Vicenta Pico was also a niece of ex-Governor Pio Pico, the last of the Mexican governors, and Andreas Pico, a valiant general in the Mexican War. Particularly interesting is the connection of this family with one of the notable points in the vicinity of San Francisco; for Mare Island was formerly owned by Victor Castro, an uncle of Vicente, who kept it as a breeding place for his thoroughbred mares until he finally sold it to the Federal Government. In 1887, Vicente Castro removed to his present place, where he bought eleven hundred choice acres on the Tepesquet—a name he declares to mean, "When the fish grabs the hook"—and there, on January 10, 1915, his good wife died.

Seven children, besides the subject of our sketch, were born to this native California couple. Audel died unmarried, while living in the Tepesquet valley; Rudolpho, also single, died in Mexico; Albert, never married, rests beside his brother Audel; Catalina married Leonardo de la Cuesta, and resides in Los Angeles with a family of eight children; Aurora resides at Santa Maria, the wife of August Bagdons, and the mother of four children; Emma, married Albert Wickenden of Los Alamos, and they have four children; and Anita married Will Johnson, a rancher on the Santa Maria river.

Born at Santa Cruz, April 25, 1873, Rosamel Castro attended the Tepesquet public school and Heald's Business College at Santa Cruz, and on September 11, 1907, was married to Miss Christene Clark, of Los Angeles, well-known in that city as one of the assistant librarians in the Los Angeles Public Library. She was born in Chicago, the daughter of John Clark, and when six years old came from the East with her parents to San Francisco, removing six years later to Los Angeles, where her father took a position in the Burlington railway office. Her mother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Smith, died some years ago. Two brothers survive—Harry D. Clark, with Haas, Baruch & Co., the wholesale grocers of Los Angeles, and A. J. Clark, who resides at Lemoore. Before her marriage, Miss Clark attended and graduated from the Los Angeles High School, after which she joined the Public Library staff.

Managing his father's ranch, and conducting four hundred sixty-five acres adjoining which he owns in his own name, Rosamel Castro has also found time for public office, having served with entire satisfaction to his fellow-citizens as trustee of the Tepesquet public school, and as roadmaster for the same district.

**ERNEST A. SATCHELL.**—A young Englishman who, by making good as the storekeeper for the Pan-American Investment Co., on the Bell property at Los Alamos, is adding to the contribution from his native countrymen toward the commercial development of California, is Ernest A. Satchell, who was born in London, November 12, 1889. His father was George William Satchell, a schoolmaster and the principal of a high school—a direct descendant, by the way, of the Earl of Winchester; while his mother, who, before her marriage, was Miss Mary Law May, was a schoolmistress and the principal of the girls' department of a London high school. Besides Ernest, they had

three children, all of whom I and their father, Colonel George F. H., managing director of A. P. May, Inc., decided to send to school. My father, the wife of O. W. May, with the exception of the first and William, the public accountant in business for himself in that town. Ernest Satchell grew up in the metropolis of the world, where he graduated from Dulwich College and pursued a commercial course.

Between the ages of eighteen and nineteen, however, he came to the United States, and to Coalinga, where he was employed for a while with the A. P. May corporation as assistant manager of their oil field ranch; and in that capacity he became widely acquainted with oil men and their needs. He was then engaged by the Standard Oil Co. at the same place, and rose from roustabout to tool-dresser. He next entered the service of the Commercial Petroleum Co., as gang-pusher, and after that he went to the Nevada Petroleum Co., remaining with them three years in charge of the commercial end of their office and store. A still further venture was with the B. B. & E. R. Dudley Petroleum Co., in the Lost Hills, where he acted in the same capacity.

At the end of another year, he came to the Pan-American Petroleum Investment Corporation, joining their forces on December 30, 1916. This famous concern has control of a ranch of ten thousand acres five miles northwest of Los Alamos, purchased by E. L. Doheny in 1916 for \$1,800,000, where great activity at present prevails. Six wells are being drilled; one, with a capacity of three hundred barrels of oil per day, is just being brought in, and another is almost ready to come. The greatest difficulty experienced by the corporation is not, as some might suppose, in luring the oil from the distant depths, but in getting the right kind of supplies and in sufficient quantity for the work. Here is where the foresight and fidelity of Mr. Satchell come in. And there are other problems. All freight trains are now hauled to the store of the Pan-American Investment Corporation from the Pan-American siding, located on the line of the Pacific Coast Railway four miles west of Los Alamos. As a result of representations made to the railway company, they will build a spur direct to the oil field and will have a siding near the center of activity.

Mr. Satchell is a popular member of the Sons of St. George, of which he has also been Worthy Vice President. He is a devoted member of the Episcopal Church, and enjoys the esteem of its social circles.

**MRS. ALBERT J. FREEMAN.**—A woman of the Santa Maria valley who has been interested in the schools of the section in which she lives, and has labored for a high standard of education, is Mrs. Albert Freeman, née Emma Lenora Hardisty, since 1911 clerk and member of the board of trustees of Washington school district, which is located about half-way between Santa Maria and Orcutt, on the Orcutt road. During the last few years this school has made great advancement in methods and attendance, good teachers being always sought and good salaries paid.

Mrs. Freeman was born in Raritan, Henderson county, Ill., in 1871. Her father, Charles W. Hardisty, was a college graduate and taught for some years. In 1879 the family moved to Glendale, Mont., where he was employed as weighmaster at a silver mine until 1889, when they came to California.

When twelve years old Miss Hardisty accompanied her parents to this state; and in 1901 she was united in marriage, at Santa Rosa, with Albert J. Freeman, who was born in Marin county, February 5, 1858. His father, William D. Freeman, was a native of New York, born in Monroe county; and

his mother, formerly Mary Halsted, was born in Canada. He was one in a family of twelve children, ten of whom are living, all in California.

The year of their marriage Mr. Freeman bought eighty-three acres of land in the Santa Maria valley, and he has been farming successfully in this section ever since. Three children have been born of this union: Ivy Glendora, Vina Irene, and Grace Elsie, all at home. Both Mr. and Mrs. Freeman have won recognition in this valley for their hospitality, as well as for their progressive ideas and public spirit.

**JAMES G. MARTIN.**—Not every man can tell such interesting stories of pioneer experiences, from which the most profitable lessons of life may be derived, as James G. Martin, a contracting teamster of Los Alamos. His father, a North Carolinian, was Thomas James Martin; and his mother, a native of Kentucky, was Miss Sarah Ann Goatley, before her marriage. During the war they lived in Audrain county, Mo., and at the end of that devastating period they first came West. It was in 1865 that the parents and most of the family joined a wagon train, headed by Captain White, on a journey destined to be marred by a raid of the Indians, whereby Mark Shearin, an uncle of M. L. Shearin, of Santa Maria, was killed. Captain White was charged with cowardice; and this led to a split in the ranks of the company, thirteen wagons proceeding over the prairies by themselves.

Thirteen children were the offspring of these sturdy parents. Two died when very young, in Missouri. Eleven started to cross the plains; but Ida May, then a child of four years, died on the way and was buried near Salt Lake City. Only nine came through to the Coast; for the second sister married Allan Crosswhite, and settled with him in Nevada. The ten children are: Phoebe Ellen, who became Mrs. John H. Haydon, and is now deceased; Louisa Elizabeth, Mrs. Crosswhite mentioned above; Martha Lavina, who married W. A. Conrad, a farmer who, since the fall of 1876, has been at Arroyo Grande, where she died, in 1915; C. W. Martin, another farmer near Santa Maria, who married Winnie Williams, and is deceased; Sarah Belle, the wife of C. H. Glines, of Santa Maria, now deceased; Huldah Goatley, Mrs. R. F. Allen, now a widow, whose husband was a Methodist Episcopal minister long at Petaluma; James Gideon, the subject of this review; Thomas Henry, who married Melvina Hobbs, and resides on a farm near Lompoc; Robert Franklin, whose wife was Hattie Newlove, and who lives near Orcutt; and Joseph Lee, who married Miss Hannah Moffman, of Lompoc, and resides at Los Alamos, where he manages the Los Alamos Transfer.

After spending three years at Santa Rosa, Thomas Martin removed with his family to Stanislaus county, where he farmed for another three years. Three years more were spent in farming in Shasta county, followed by a winter in Lake county. In the summer of 1875, he came to the Santa Maria valley; and there he bought some school land east of Orcutt. At the age of sixty-six he died there; and his wife passed away in the Santa Maria valley at the age of sixty-seven.

Born at Mexico, Mo., January 16, 1859, James G. Martin came with his parents to California, and attended the public school at Santa Rosa. In 1887, he was married to Miss Ida May Cash, the daughter of Jerome Bonaparte Cash, the well-known pioneer of the southern part of the Santa Maria valley. After his marriage, he was engaged in farming, near Orcutt, for ten or twelve years, and in 1902 he came to Los Alamos. In 1907 Mr. Martin went to Lom-

poc, where he spent five years; then renting his property, he came once more to Los Alamos, and there remained until 1915. Going again to Lompoc, he was bereaved by the death of his wife, in June of that year. He then sold out, and has since resided in Los Alamos, conducting his business there.

Five children bear Mr. Martin's honored name: Thomas J., who married the widow of Arthur Coiner, and is in charge of the Pinal-Dome Oil Co.'s lease near Los Alamos; Nellie, the second child, who became the wife of A. P. Smith, a rancher in the Imperial Valley; Lester Lee, who married Miss Grace Ash, and runs a pumping station four miles west of Los Alamos at the Pan-American siding, for the P. A. P. I. Corporation; and Ray Goatley and Donald Leone, who are with their father. Like the father, all his children are hard workers, but workers who improve their minds if they do not always fatten their purses. Mr. Martin himself has not grown rich; but in the consciousness that he has been a good citizen, he is reasonably happy and contented. In national politics he is a Democrat.

**JOHN R. WICKENDEN.**—An example of profitable and worth-while enterprise directed by a young man of self-confidence, and one who upholds the traditions of an historic, progressive and prosperous family, is furnished by J. R. Wickenden, superintendent of the Wickenden Corporation, controlling about 5,000 acres of land.

Born on the ranch, on February 8, 1879, John R. Wickenden, the youngest son of Fred and Ramona (Foxen) Wickenden (of whom extended mention is made in this work), attended the public school in the Olive district. He pursued a general collegiate course at St. Mary's College, Oakland, and afterward a business course, followed by a commercial course, under Professor Armstrong at the Business Institute, San Luis Obispo. He was next engaged as clerk for his brother, the late W. F. Wickenden, who ran a store at Los Alamos, and then moved, with his business, to San Luis Obispo. Not caring particularly for the mercantile business, he looked about for an investment, and purchased one hundred Jerseys, which cost, in 1908, \$1,200. To pay for these, he deposited eight hundred dollars that he had saved from his wages, and gave a chattel mortgage for the balance; and from this small beginning he has invested more and more in cattle until today he is one of the large cattle men of Santa Barbara county.

In pursuit of this enterprise, and in response, perhaps, to his love for travel, Mr. Wickenden, in 1914, made an extended business trip to Magdalena, Sonora, Mexico, where he bought two hundred head of Mexican cattle known as feeders. He was accompanied from San Luis Obispo by other persons who had cattle interests, and altogether the party purchased 1,700 head. These were loaded, inspected and passed by the customs officers at Nogales, the vendors paying the United States the customs duty. Mexican cattle do not come up to the standard quality demanded by the United States authorities, neither being as heavy in the build as the American breeds, nor gaining flesh as fast; and one needs to be a good judge, as Mr. Wickenden is, to pick out, and quickly, the best cattle for feeding and breeding.

Aside from serving as superintendent of the Wickenden Corporation, J. R. Wickenden is renting pasture lands from the Santa Maria Petroleum & Pipe Line Co., and some eight hundred acres on the Wickenden ranch.

In 1904, John R. Wickenden was married to Miss Flora Kriegel, the daughter of Frederick Kriegel, a well-known farmer, who had a homestead



business at Los Alamos and Lompoc, and who died on December 14, 1915, at the age of seventy-two years. Her mother died in 1902, in her fifty-fourth year. Her only other child, Ida, is a graduate of Berkeley and a teacher. Mr. and Mrs. Wickenden have two children: Winston and Marjorie. Mr. and Mrs. Wickenden have traveled extensively. In 1909, they made an extended tour, visiting Seattle, where they enjoyed the Alaska-Pacific-Yukon Exposition, and then passed on to Canada and British Columbia; and in 1915 they visited and enjoyed both the exposition at San Francisco and that at San Diego. They are favorites in the social circles of their community. Mr. Wickenden is a member of the Elks in San Luis Obispo.

**JOHN T. AND DORA B. GLINES.**—What good service a man of character, and of substantial business enterprise and experience, may render to his community, when appointed to office, is well illustrated in the case of John T. Glines, a ranch owner and road overseer of the Los Alamos district, who, with a brother-in-law, A. J. Holloway, owns a large stock ranch on the Alamo, where they keep about two hundred fifty head of beef cattle. His father was C. H. Glines, a pioneer elsewhere described in one of our sketches.

Born in Lake county, Cal., November 27, 1875, John Glines, when three months old, was brought to Santa Maria in his mother's arms, and grew up on his father's ranch near what is now Orcutt, then called Graciosa. He obtained his education in the old Graciosa school, as well as in the public school at Pine Grove, after which he farmed for a year in that vicinity, removing next to Alamo, where he took up a homestead.

In 1898, he entered into a partnership with his father, and bought a ranch of six hundred forty acres; and soon afterward he filed on half as many acres of school land. Prospering in this venture, he bought his father out; and it was after the dissolution of this partnership that he helped form the firm of Glines & Holloway, who now own a ranch of eleven hundred eighty acres, stocked with some two hundred fifty cattle. For eight years Mr. Glines lived on the farm at Alamo; but in 1904 he came to Los Alamos, and for two years conducted a livery stable.

Appointed road overseer of the Los Alamos valley in 1908, John Glines constructed and repaired the highways for four years, meanwhile managing the Los Alamos Meat Market, and at the same time farming for hay and grain. In 1912, he rented a part of the Bell ranch, and a year later he put in four hundred acres to beans and three hundred acres to grain. Owing to the want of rain, however, and the consequent dry season, his efforts that year proved a failure, and it has taken him several years since to recover what he lost. In December, 1916, on motion of Supervisor Presker, of Santa Maria, he again received the appointment as road overseer of the Los Alamos road district, and again he took charge of the public highways, at the same time farming one hundred twenty-five acres.

John T. Glines was married on December 10, 1895, at Los Alamos, to Miss Dora B. Holloway, the daughter of J. J. Holloway, whose interesting biographical sketch is elsewhere given. Mr. and Mrs. Glines have five children: Vera Lucile, a sophomore at Pomona College; Melba V., a junior in the Santa Maria high school; Rebecca B., a pupil in the Bell school; and Denzel C. and John H. Glines. In the Bell grammar school, Mrs. Glines is a teacher; and a very successful instructor she has proven to be. She is a worker, too, for besides her hours of teaching at the school, where there is an

average daily attendance of forty-five, out of a total enrollment of fifty, she keeps house for her own family and takes care of her own children. Mrs. Glines is a member of the Christian Church. In their beautiful home, built in 1911, a fine house with a large campus spreading over half a block of building lots, Mr. and Mrs. Glines and their happy family dwell, seldom venturing beyond their own hearth. Mr. Glines is a member of the Knights of Pythias at Santa Maria. In national politics, he finds the Democratic policies his best guide.

**BRINTNALL EUCALYPTUS RANCH.**—The influence of wisely invested capital upon the development of the latent resources of our state, is forcibly shown in the case of the celebrated Brintnall Eucalyptus, or Gum Tree, Ranch, three miles north of Guadalupe, on the mesa land immediately north of the Oso Flaco. The property is owned by William A. Brintnall, of Los Angeles, a former Chicago banker and millionaire, and is under the superintendency of Le Roy Francis McClellan, a relative of General McClellan, and one of the most experienced eucalyptus growers in California. This great ranch nine years ago was nothing but a sandy waste, thought to be well-nigh worthless, and none but a capitalist could possibly have undertaken such a project as transforming the barren mesa to a valuable timber tract. Mr. Brintnall has already invested a quarter of a million dollars there, without having made his expenses from the venture; yet the place is worth \$300,000, and it is becoming more valuable each year as the trees grow larger. Three superintendents have in turn had charge of the estate. For two years Mr. Thompson managed the property. Then Charles Brintnall succeeded to the superintendency, which he continued for three years. Since that time, Mr. McClellan has held the responsibility. Besides the superintendent, six men are regularly employed on the ranch.

Mr. McClellan came to California in 1911, and soon entered the employ of C. H. McWilliams, of Los Angeles, coming to San Luis Obispo to take charge of the seven hundred acres of eucalyptus for the Southern California Eucalyptus Growers' Association, which adjoined the Brintnall ranch. He continued there until November, 1914, when he accepted his present position.

In his capacity as superintendent, Mr. McClellan conducts two or three important industries on the wide ranch. Besides the growing of eucalyptus, an important poultry business is maintained at the farm. On the ground floor of the poultry building, there is a brooder room, where fourteen or fifteen hundred baby chicks may be accommodated; and in the basement is an incubating-room in which four Jubilee incubators are installed, having a capacity of over two thousand eggs for a hatching. Full-blooded white Leghorns are the only fowls raised here, and there is a flock of from two to three thousand laying hens.

The poultry business, however, is but a small part of the activity at the ranch, the raising of the eucalyptus trees being the main industry. Nine hundred fifty acres are planted to eucalyptus globulus, while forty-five acres are given up to other varieties. There are twenty acres, for example, planted to resiniferous eucalyptus, or red gum; fifteen acres are given to gray gum; and ten acres, to sugar gum. The ranch contains about a thousand acres, and some six hundred forty trees are planted to the acre. The first thinning occurs in the seventh year; and conditions of growth and other circumstances determine the time of later thinnings. Some trees were planted

from seed eight years ago, and the next year many were re-planted. Now the average thickness of the eucalyptus in the Brintnall groves is from six to eight inches.

A distilling plant, capable of distilling eucalyptus oil from one and one-half tons of lopped-off leaves in a day, is a feature of the ranch; and another center of activity is the wood department, in which material for the handles of axes and other tools is selected, while a thousand cords or more of firewood are piled up annually. All in all, the Brintnall Eucalyptus ranch is a monument to the enterprise and initiative of its large-minded owner, and a splendid testimonial of merit to the superintendent, than whom no better could anywhere be found.

**ALBERT P. WICKENDEN.**—A native son of California and the oldest child of Fred and Ramona (Foxen) Wickenden, pioneer citizens of Santa Barbara county, Albert P. Wickenden was born in San Luis Obispo, March 17, 1864. He studied under the tutorship of a teacher employed to come to the house in Foxen cañon, before the days of the public schools, and later attended at the Olive school, built in 1875, the first school in that part of Santa Barbara county. On closing his books, he helped in the raising of cattle and sheep on the home ranch, and assisted in the country store run by his father.

December 22, 1902, witnessed the marriage of Mr. Wickenden to Miss Emma Castro, a daughter of Vicente Castro, a member of the family so distinguished for its own exploits in the early annals of California, and for its important associations with Pio Pico, the last of the Spanish governors, and his régime. Mr. and Mrs. Wickenden have had four children—Albert R., Ida Ramona, Louise Henrietta, and Julius Emmett—all of whom are devout members of the Catholic Church at Los Alamos. In 1911, Mr. Wickenden bought twenty-three acres immediately south of Los Alamos; and there, besides making other improvements, he has built himself a handsome bungalow home.

A citizen endorsing the platforms of the Republican party, Mr. Wickenden takes a live interest in the larger questions of the day. He has always been an active advocate of the state highway, and still maintains that this should be widened to thirty feet, not merely for civic use in times of peace, but to provide a great thoroughfare for the transportation of troops in time of war or national peril. According to the conclusions of this experienced student of public affairs, nothing short of a great highway stretching along the Pacific Coast from British Columbia to Mexico will be adequate, should ever the government need such a military artery.

**WALTER HUGH DEISING.**—As superintendent of the Harris ranch, for the Union Sugar Co. of Betteravia, Walter Deising has made his influence felt as an expert raiser of sugar beets and as manager of large interests. He began at the bottom of the ladder with the company, with everything to learn in regard to the cultivation of beets; and since 1904 he has been gradually working his way to the front, until in 1913 he was placed in his present responsible position, which he has filled with credit to himself and with profit to the company.

A native of Germany, Walter Hugh Deising was born in 1884, a son of Henry and Elizabeth (Leapor) Deising, natives of Prussia, who were married there, and who came to the United States in 1891 and settled in the

neighborhood of Buffalo, Minn. There the father began farming, and then the son went to school, although he had attended the German schools and could read and write in his native language.

In 1897 the family came West to California, and settled in Creston, San Luis Obispo County. The father died in San Francisco, whither he had been taken to a hospital for an operation, on February 3, 1912, aged sixty-seven years; the widow now lives in San Diego. There were two sons and four daughters in their family: Lizzie, the widow of Andrew Arreado, of Hanford; Walter H., the subject of this sketch; Emma, who married Jacob Kawalsky, of San Francisco; and Hattie, Olga and Arthur, who are at home in San Diego.

Walter Deising attended school until 1898, and then hired out as a farm hand and worked on different ranches near Creston. He finally entered the employ of the Union Sugar Co. at Betteravia, and has since been in their service. He was married in 1910 to Miss Emma Bontadelli, of Guadalupe, a daughter of Amelio and Antoinetta Bontadelli, both deceased. One daughter, Evelyn, has been born to brighten their home.

Mr. Deising is a member of the Laguna Lodge of Odd Fellows, and of Guadalupe Lodge, No. 337, F. & A. M., at Guadalupe. He has a high sense of civic responsibility, and has performed every duty that came his way. He is modest, well balanced and discerning, and is justly popular with all with whom he comes in contact.

**MARCUS KINNEBREW.**—A man of pronounced force of character and executive ability, and a jolly good fellow, in harmony with all the world, is Marcus, or Mark, Kinnebrew, the driller foreman for the Pan-American Petroleum Investment Corporation, operating five miles to the northwest of Los Alamos, on the Bell property. His father is A. B. Kinnebrew, a rancher at Amarillo, Tex., who has a record of several years' service in the United States Department of Agriculture, where he was employed in trying to eradicate the boll weevil, the great cotton pest of the South. A. B. Kinnebrew is a native of Georgia. He served in the Confederate Army as a soldier in an Alabama regiment; and when he was twenty-five years of age, he came to the Lone Star State. At the close of the war, he married Miss Blanche Edwards, of Alabama.

Born, April 4, 1875, at Corsicana, Tex., the fourth of eight children still living, Mark Kinnebrew grew up on a ranch at that place and attended the excellent Texas public schools, taking later a commercial course at Chambers Business College there, and a year or two at Professor Tom Smith's private school at Blooming Grove. At the age of eighteen, he went into the oil fields at Corsicana to dress tools; and for three years following he was employed by the American Well and Prospecting Co., acting for two-thirds of the time as a driller.

In December, 1898, Mark Kinnebrew married Miss Ella Burrow, of Corsicana, and two years later set out with her for California, full of confidence in the future. He first took up his residence at Bakersfield, where he was engaged as driller for the Associated Oil Co. in the Kern river field; and in that responsible position he continued for three years. In 1903 he went to Coalinga. He remained there six months, and then returned to the Associated, this time in the Santa Maria field. He left them in 1914, when he was appointed drilling foreman for the Doheny forces at Coalinga. In the

summer or fall of 1916, he started the first drilling on the new lease at Los Alamos, for the Pan-American Petroleum Investment Corporation. These responsible positions have given Mr. Kinnebrew a considerable acquaintance with important business affairs, and a valuable knowledge of men.

Five children have blessed the union of Mr. and Mrs. Kinnebrew: Elise, Edward, Lester, Ailene and Alice. A sister of Mr. Kinnebrew, Mrs. Swearingen, resides at Santa Maria, and a brother is Lee Kinnebrew, of Shreveport, Louisiana.

Of Scotch ancestry, and therefore sociable by nature, Mr. Kinnebrew is a leading spirit among his associates. Politically, he is a Democrat.

**WILLIAM CALVIN OAKLEY, JR.**—What can be accomplished by prudence, perseverance and push, the "three P's of success," is demonstrated in the successful management of large ranching interests by William C. Oakley, Jr., of Los Alamos, who, as the director of the 6,000-acre Shaw ranch, in partnership with his mother-in-law, Mrs. Sophia Bonetti, is meeting with more than the ordinary degree of success, especially for a man of his years. This is one of the largest ranches in Santa Barbara county, and the largest in the Santa Maria valley. "Will" Oakley, as he is more familiarly known, is a son of Francis D. Oakley, who was born in Sacramento county about 1856, and a grandson of Carey Calvin Oakley, a native of Tennessee who came across the plains with ox teams in 1851, mined for gold for a time, and then turned his attention to ranching as a more stable means of making his fortune. In 1869 he left the northern part of the state and came to the Santa Maria valley, becoming one of the first settlers of this part of the county. He homesteaded a quarter section of land opposite the present site of the depot in Santa Maria, and here he farmed with very good results. He had the distinction of bringing one of the first threshing machines into the valley, and he operated it for years. While he was living in the northern part of the state, he married Elizabeth Whaley, a member of a pioneer family of Sonoma county; and they had eleven children born to them. He died in 1890.

Francis D. Oakley was the oldest of the eleven children born to his parents, and he had only the advantages of the pioneer schools of the state. He early became a farmer, following in the footsteps of his father. He married Miss Mollie Step, whose mother, now eighty-two years of age, is living in Santa Ynez, near which place she owns a good ranch. She crossed the plains with her second husband. The train of which they were members was a large one, and brought a good number of horses and cattle with them. Grandfather Step lived to be eighty-nine, and was a man of extraordinary strength and vitality. Mr. and Mrs. Francis Oakley had six children: Bertha May, who married Charles Bennett, of Lompoc; Alice E., the wife of P. F. Parker, of Los Alamos; William C., the subject of this review; Sadie Bell, Mrs. Philippini, of Santa Barbara; Ada Pearl, who is married to Paul Thompson, an employe of the Associated Oil Co. at Sisquoc; and Henry Clifford, of Santa Barbara, in which city the parents reside.

A native of Santa Barbara county, Will Oakley was born on June 24, 1886, at Santa Ynez. He attended the public schools of this county, and took a commercial course in the Lompoc high school, after which he began working on his father's ranch, learning his lessons in the different branches of farming from a competent instructor. He later went to the Harris ranch,

and still later was employed by a creamery company in Guadalupe, when he was eighteen years of age. In 1909 he embarked in the dairy and cattle business on part of the Todos Santos rancho, and during the next three years got together about two hundred fifty head of cattle, when he found that he would need more land on which to range them. He then leased what is known as the Shaw ranch, from the Barron heirs in France, in 1912, and now has about five hundred head of cattle, one hundred twenty-five head of milch-cows, and thirty head of horses with which to carry on the work on six hundred acres of plow land, on which he raises large crops of grain and beans. In this enterprise he has the co-operation of his partner, Mrs. Sophia Bonetti; and they work in harmony, which insures success.

On July 21, 1909, while living in Guadalupe, Mr. Oakley married Miss Leslie Bonetti, who was born and reared in that town. Her father, Albert Bonetti, was a native of Someo, canton Ticino, Switzerland, and left there, when a boy of fifteen, to come to California to make his fortune. He did succeed, by good, hard work and business judgment. He was married here to Sophia Guerra, a daughter of Bonifacio Guerra, a native of Marin county. Three children blessed their union: Leslie, now Mrs. Oakley; Albert, an employee of the Bank of Italy in San Francisco, who married May Hill, of Oakland; and Valento, of Guadalupe. Mr. Bonetti died in Guadalupe at the age of forty-five. Mrs. Bonetti is a most able woman, and assists her son-in-law with her sound advice and encouragement. Her grandmother, Annunziato (Betante) Guerra, came to America, and makes her home with Mrs. Bonetti. She is hale and hearty at the age of seventy-seven.

Mr. and Mrs. Oakley have one child, a son, Albert William. They are both very popular in their social set and have an ever widening circle of friends. Mr. Oakley holds membership in the Odd Fellows and Elks lodges of Santa Barbara. He is a man of high ideals, progressive, enterprising and public-spirited, and year by year is becoming more firmly established in the business circles of the county where his entire life has been passed.

#### BENJAMIN PIERRE DELEISSEGUES.

has the distinction of being a son of a native son of California, and it is no more than natural that he should be interested in the welfare of his state. His grandfather, Oliver Deleissegue, was captain of a French trading vessel and was shipwrecked off the coast of Monterey some time in the late thirties. He came ashore, and was so well received by the inhabitants of the town that he decided to remain, and in due time was united in marriage with a Spanish girl, a member of the Boronda family, one of the prominent Spanish families in California history. The Deleissegues all spell their name with a final "s," but the captain's certificate had it "Deleissegue." Oliver Deleissegue and his wife had a number of children, one of whom, Albert Deleissegues, was born in Monterey in 1847. Albert Deleissegues received a good education for that period. He became a farmer and a business man, and lived a busy and useful life; and he is now making his home at Nipomo, assisting his son-in-law in his mercantile business. He was married to Rebecca Hames, who was born in Oakland, in December, 1854, a member of a pioneer family. Her father, Benjamin Franklin Hames, was a native of New York, a civil engineer and millwright of much ability, as well as an expert accountant. Her mother was Carmen Laing, born at Valparaiso, Chile, of English parentage.

Benjamin Pierre Deleissegues was born in San Luis Obispo, April 11, 1880, and grew to manhood there. He received his education in the public schools. After graduating from the grammar school, he went to work, as his parents were in moderate circumstances, and the children had to become self-supporting as soon as possible. He started in to learn the drug business in the Greenleaf Pharmacy in San Luis Obispo; but after eighteen months, finding the pay unsatisfactory, he became associated with the agricultural department of the Union Sugar Co., at Betteravia, as stationary engineer, and ran the pumping plant there. In 1912 he went to the oil-field district, where he was engaged as a well pumper, and later as a tool dresser, for a period of two years. He then went to Arizona and raised one crop of cotton near Yuma; but the call of his native state was too strong, and in June, 1915, he returned to California, and was employed in the oil fields until 1916, when he and his brother Oliver began farming in Los Alamos valley, where they have one hundred fifty acres of the Careaga estate. There they make a specialty of growing beans; and it is predicted that these young men will carve out their own future and win success, for they have family tradition to maintain and take pride in, being "to the manor born."

Mr. Deleissegues is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and of San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 322, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

**CLARENCE J. HOBSON.**—A stirring event in the Spanish-American War is recalled by the name of Clarence J. Hobson, who is a distant relative of Richard Pearson Hobson, the hero of the "Merrimac," at Santiago Harbor. Mr. Hobson is chief engineer of the Harris water station at Orby, seven miles south of Orcutt, for the Union Oil Co., and is also postmaster at Orby. Born in Ballard valley, Santa Barbara county, he was the first white child born there of American parents. His father was the late J. J. Hobson, who came to California in the early fifties, crossing the plains with teams and wagons, and later went back to Illinois, where he married Miss Alberta Bender. After their marriage, he returned with his wife to California, and settled in Ballard valley.

Having attended the public schools of his district, Clarence was apprenticed to the iron works in Santa Barbara, and learned the trade of a mechanical engineer, and especially whatever has to do with steam, gas and other machinery. He later opened a blacksmith's shop at Los Alamos; but through the arduous labor of shoeing the heavy horses brought to his forge, he injured himself permanently, so that today he still suffers from the effects.

While in business in that little town, Clarence Hobson married Miss Rena Mankins, who died at Los Angeles, leaving one child, Napola.

Mr. Hobson remarried, choosing for his helpmate Miss Vera Jessee, the daughter of John and Mary (McHenry) Jessee. Her father was a civil engineer of San Jose, and a member of a family identified with the famous Bear Flag party. One child, C. J. Hobson, Jr., has blessed this union.

In recognition of the exceptional mechanical genius of Mr. Hobson, he was appointed, in September, 1910, chief engineer of the Harris water station, owned by the Union Oil Co. What a responsibility was thus committed to him may be judged from the fact that all the water used for drilling, steam, mechanical and domestic purposes on the numerous leases and at the pumping stations of the great Union Oil Co., in both the Orcutt and the Lompoc fields, comes from there. The water is pumped from great wells at the Harris

station, and is forced through underground water mains to two great tanks located upon the most highly elevated grounds. The first is at the Newlove lease in the Santa Maria field, from which are supplied all the compressor works, refineries, pipe-line stations, steam engines and private houses, as well as stock tanks, on all the Union Oil Co.'s leases in the wide Santa Maria field, besides the city of Orcutt, the water gravitating to the different places where it is needed. The second is at Lompoc, and this supplies all of the Union Oil Co.'s engines, drills, pumping plants, refineries, compressors, leases, houses, etc., in the Lompoc oil field—a tremendous amount of water. As it is most important that the water should be furnished in sufficient quantities, it will be seen that this veteran mechanic has in charge a position of considerable responsibility.

A patriotic citizen, whose devotion to his country has never been questioned, Mr. Hobson serves as postmaster at Orby, being the third postmaster appointed to that post office since its establishment in 1908. Courteous and attentive to the wants of the public, and well informed as to the postal needs of his district, Mr. Hobson has given efficient and satisfactory service here.

**THOMAS JENSEN.**—What heroic persistence may accomplish in the great struggle of life, is shown in the case of Thomas Jensen, who, leaving his home in the Old World to push off to the New and a more promising outlook, toiled until he was enabled at last to realize his ambition. Born at Orra, Denmark, three miles from the German boundary, on March 30, 1861, he was the son of Jens Hanson, a farmer and sailor, who served for three years in the great war, beginning in 1848, that raged between Germany and Denmark, and then, wounded and crippled for life, returned home, his future darkened by the awful experience he had undergone. Five uncles of Thomas, brothers of his mother, also fought throughout the Danish-German war a few years later, and each returned alive and unharmed. His mother was Anna Maria Thompson, a native of Jutland. Both parents died when nearly eighty years of age, and within a year of each other. Besides Thomas, there was another son, Hans Jensen, who lives on the old home place in Denmark.

Having attended the public school in his native district, and been properly confirmed in the Lutheran Church, Thomas Jensen was married in 1888, at Orra, to Miss Dorthia Maria Nilsen; and the following year, leaving his wife and infant baby, he sailed for the United States. He had two cousins at Nipomo, Cal., and they were the means of directing his attention to the Golden State.

He left Denmark November 11, 1897, and sailed from Hamburg, on the Hamburg-American liner "Suabia," and landed in New York at old Castle Garden. Eventually, he reached San Francisco; but when he got as far as San Luis Obispo, he found himself penniless, and threatened with the necessity of tarrying, at least for a while, in the old Mission town. He met a fellow-countryman, however, and borrowed three dollars from him; and with that money he was able to complete his journey to Nipomo. It is needless to say that he went to work at once, and that the first three dollars he could spare from his slender earnings he remitted to the friend who had seen him through. Arriving on December 17 at Nipomo, he began work for his cousin, Jacob Hanson, and continued for a long time to work for him by the month. Then he engaged for a while with a nursery at Nipomo, and so got still further ahead.



At the end of four years he had saved enough money to be able to send for his wife and two children, who joined him at Nipomo in 1894. He rented a farm near that town, which he ran for four years. In 1898, he came down to the Careagas and rented a part of their ranch, and this he continued to hold for the next six years. When he bought his ranch of four hundred eighty-two acres, a part of the historic old estate, he secured what had been won by Sullivan and Roach, attorneys-at-law in San Francisco. He stocked it with cattle and set to work to raise beans and hay. Today he has forty head of cattle, twelve work horses, and eight other horses for the saddle and the buggy. In busy seasons he gives employment to several men besides himself.

Five years ago he built an up-to-date bungalow surrounded by a group of fruit trees and English walnuts, and a yielding vineyard, and here he shares the home comfort with his wife and seven children. A daughter, Anna Maria, married Fred Lang, a fireman on the Pacific Coast Railway, residing at Los Olivos, and they have one child, Alfred. Neils, James, Mattie, Christina, Charles and Mary live at home. In politics, Mr. Jensen votes for principle, and tests the candidate by what, in his opinion, the candidate represents.

**HARRY JOHN SANBORN.**—So much hard, steady and patient work, and work without dependence on "pull" or favor of any sort, is nowadays required for one to become a master driller and to rise with the expansion of the vast oil interests, that all the more credit is due to such brawny machinists and engineers as Harry John Sanborn, who has risen entirely by his own merit until now he fills the responsible position of rotary driller at well No. 13, of the Pan-American Petroleum Investment Co., near Los Alamos. Born at Manitowoc, Wis., September 22, 1881, he was but three and a half years old when, on the death of his mother, he was adopted by the family of Wellington Sanborn, a rancher at Hortonville, in that state, who still owns a fine farm of a hundred sixty acres there. By the Sanborns he was received as their own child. He attended the public grammar school, and later he profited by a year at the local high school.

Feeling that he ought to strike out for himself, he left home at the age of twenty-six and went in for railroading. He got a job as locomotive fireman on a freight train of the C. & N. W. railroad, running between Green Bay and Milwaukee, but during the great panic of 1907, which brought business practically to a standstill, and with it the railroad trains, he was among thousands of others who were laid off from work. Just at that time, however, Frank Kellogg, a friend of his school days, wrote him from Batson, Tex., telling him that there was plenty of work to do there in the oil fields, and invited him to come and join him. He went there and began in the oil business in that field, first as a roustabout and then in work at pumping.

In August, 1908, Mr. Sanborn came to California. Going to Taft, he secured work on a lease of the Standard Oil Co. as helper to a rotary drilling crew. He also worked at Sherman and Whittier in this state. In 1910, he was back in Taft as a driller for the Miocene; and later he was engaged as driller to the W. D. Head Drilling Co. at Taft.

For the seasons of 1910-11-12, he contracted as a driller for Brand & Stephens, a Fullerton firm. There he made the acquaintance of John Golespy, a veteran rotary driller, who now has the morning tour at well No. 13 of the

corporation, and who is widely known through the state for his expert knowledge of the drilling of oil wells; and in October, 1916, both he and Golespy came to the Pan-American Petroleum Investment Corporation.

On May 20, 1912, at Bakersfield, Mr. Sanborn was married to Miss Pearl Dexter, a daughter of Franklin Dexter, one of the highly respected citizens of Clintonville, Wis., where she was a great favorite in social circles. One child, Lucille, now four years of age, has come to bless the home of this estimable couple.

**CLEVELAND J. WILKINSON.**—A San Luis Obispo boy who, through the most valuable practical experience gained by his own efforts, is creating an enviable record and reputation as a careful and expert rotary driller, is Cleveland, or Cleve, J. Wilkinson, now in charge of a crew putting in well No. 6 for the Pan-American Petroleum Investment Corporation. His father, who is still living in retirement at Arroyo Grande, an old gentleman of eighty years, and a well-known and honored settler of San Luis Obispo County, is the rancher, John M. Wilkinson, a native Kentuckian, who crossed the plains from Missouri, probably in 1850, and who settled as a farmer and stock-raiser in the Santa Maria valley about 1869. His mother, on the other hand, was a native daughter, born at Napa, and christened Hetty A. Stubblefield; she is still living at Bakersfield.

Besides the subject of our sketch, Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson had nine children: Abbie married Esmeralda Reys, a rancher in the Cuyama valley; Jesse married Nora Jobe, and has a ranch not far from his brother; Louvina is the wife of J. H. Jones, a farmer near Maricopa; Ida is the wife of S. Roger, a bookkeeper for the Union Oil Co., residing on the Newton lease, in the Santa Maria field; Ira married Miss Clara Green, and resides with her in Alberta, Canada; Jeanie is the wife of Bell Wright, a barber at Goldfield, Nev.; May is at home; and Ruth and Johnnie are attending the local school.

Born at Huasna, San Luis Obispo County, on Christmas Day, 1886, Cleveland J. Wilkinson grew up on his father's ranch in Kern county, and early became noted as a rider skilled in the breaking in of saddle horses. He began working and riding for the Hon. J. I. Waggy, proprietor of the Ozeana ranch, in the mountains west of Maricopa, and then engaged himself as a rider and stockman for Fuller Bros., at Los Angeles. As a result of his cow-punching experience and his proficiency when in the saddle, Mr. Wilkinson was offered a lucrative position with a film company making moving pictures, but he had the good sense to reject the offer and to stick to more practical and permanent occupations.

He quit riding, and struck into the oil fields as a roustabout at Santa Maria, and soon made up his mind that he would stay with the oil business until he mastered it. He went to work on the New Pennsylvania, and then went to the Union in the Santa Maria field. He was next employed by the Radium Oil Co. in the same district; and there he learned to be a driller with standard tools.

About this time he learned of rotary drilling; and being wide-awake enough to see that it would prove the device of the future, he went to the Fullerton field to learn the rotary drilling process. There he worked for the Patterson Oil Co., then for the Strain Oil Co., later for the General Petroleum Oil Co., and finally for the St. Helena Oil Co., in whose service he

became expert as a rotary driller. In 1916, he went to Taft to drill for the K. T. & O. Co. On concluding his engagement with them, he yielded to the attraction of better money and entered the service of Maxwell & McDonald, of the same place. This put him on record as having started the first rotary rig at Taft. He was then transferred to the Palmer Annex of the same firm of contract drillers, and there gave the same satisfactory service.

In October, 1916, Mr. Wilkinson took up his present responsible position with the P. A. P. I. Corporation, setting to work energetically on wells No. 1 and No. 6. In the case of the former, the well was drilled to a depth of 2,448 feet, or where the water is shut off by cementing. Well No. 6 was started on the 29th of December, 1916, and such excellent progress has been made that by February 3, of the present year, a depth of 2,250 feet had been reached by the drill.

On November 12, 1910, Mr. Wilkinson married Miss Lena Earl Lathrop, a popular girl of Arroyo Grande. He built a house on the lease where he is at present employed; and here he and his wife are enjoying the quiet and contentment of California life. He is active in the circles of the Moose, a member of the lodge at Santa Maria, No. 719; and he takes a live interest in politics, indorsing the principles of the Democratic party.

**JOHN H. HARRISON.**—A Texas boy who, while retaining his personal integrity and manhood, has proven his full capacity for aggressive and expert workmanship, and has established an excellent record as a successful rotary driller, being now engaged by the great Pan-American Petroleum Investment Corporation, is John H. Harrison, commonly and widely known among the boys in the oil fields as Bob Harrison, the driller. Born at Waelder, Gonzales county, Tex., September 22, 1879, Bob is the son of W. E. Harrison, a South Carolinian by birth, who is now conducting, as he has been for years, a well-known hardware store at Waelder. His mother, who died when he was thirteen years old, was a native of Texas, and was known as Miss Annie Exzena before her marriage. There are four brothers and three sisters of John H. Harrison still living, all of whom except one reside in Texas, Ed Harrison being in charge of R. E. McKee's drillers at the Palmer Union.

Educated at the Texas public schools, Bob Harrison first felt the call to the oil field with the coming of the Spindle-Top boom; and unable to resist the temptation, he turned aside from the carpenter's trade, to which he had first given himself, and joined his brother, Julius, now a stockholder of a petroleum company at Sour Lake, Tex., who had preceded him into the oil game and urged him to follow. He started building rigs, and continued in that work for a year and a half. After that, convinced that he was on the right path, he took up oil-field work at Spindle Top, and later at Sour Lake, Tex., and then removed to Batson, returning in five or six months. His next step led him to Jennings, La.; and there he had his first experience as a driller, entering the service of the Crowley Oil & Mineral Co., and continuing with them for seven years.

In the spring of 1910, Mr. Harrison came to California, and to Taft, and took up drilling for the Honolulu Oil Co., under the superintendency of John Pollard. He left that concern a year and a half later to engage with the Standard Short Line, removing still later to the Fullerton field, where he drilled for a year. Then he came to the Palmer Annex in the Santa Maria

field, and after that entered upon his present engagement with the P. A. P. I. Corporation. As a rotary driller he has been exceedingly successful. He started to drill well No. 7 on January 13, 1917, and by February 3 reached a depth of 1,420 feet.

In the southern metropolis of Los Angeles, John Harrison was married to Miss Alice Egert, a winsome and highly esteemed daughter of that city; and with her he lives in his own cosy house on the company's lease.

**MRS. S. R. STOMBS.**—Whoever is familiar with the hard, exhausting work and varying ups and downs of such toilers as the laborers in the great oil fields at Coalinga and Los Alamos, will not wonder at the part played daily in their lives by the excellent boarding-house conducted by the mistress of all California boarding-house keepers, Mrs. S. R. Stombs, who, serving the community of the Pan-American Petroleum Investment Corporation, provides for sixty or more boarders, prepares over two hundred meals, and both quickens and satisfies the appetites of each and every guest, sending every mother's son away not only well-fed and contented, but with memories of the day, perhaps long ago, when he was a favored diner at home. Only the best of everything is placed upon Mrs. Stombs' groaning table; all is arranged with cleanliness and taste, and with every consideration for the boarder's comfort.

Born at Boston, Mass., Mrs. Stombs in maidenhood was Miss Sophia Wood, and came as a child with her parents to California. She attended the public schools at San Francisco, and in that metropolitan city she was married to Thomas A. Stombs, becoming the mother of three children: Sadie, Mrs. A. D. Wood, of Pasadena; Roy T. Stombs, who is in the employ of an ice company at Los Angeles; and Jessie, Mrs. Emmet Wilson, who lives at Electra, Tex. On account of poor health, Mr. Stombs lives at Los Angeles.

For seven years Mrs. Stombs managed a boarding-house at Coalinga, where she had the first eating-house on the American property; and it was only in the fall of 1914 that she set up her present eating-house, for which she personally buys everything and personally superintends the preparation and the cooking of the meals.

**MARION COX.**—One who, by long application and the hardest and most persistent labor, has risen to his present position as a driller in the Santa Maria valley, using standard tools, is Joseph Marion Cox, popularly known as Marion Cox. He was born on June 9, 1883, in the Santa Maria valley, where his father was for many years an honored and leading pioneer, before he removed to Los Alamos, the place of his present residence. His father, James M. Cox, came as a child from Ukiah, Mendocino county, with his parents, Henry and Mary (Yarnell) Cox, both of whom came from Missouri to California in 1852. Marion's mother, who is also living at Los Alamos, was Miss Elizabeth Garrett before her marriage.

Seven children, besides the subject of our sketch, were born to Mr. and Mrs. James M. Cox. Cynthia Lee became the wife of W. H. Hathaway, a tool-dresser; Mamie Frances is the wife of George Howard, a rancher of Los Alamos; Effie is the wife of William Bailes, a teamster residing on the oil lease; Annie L. married Laurence Franklin, a rancher in the Imperial Valley; Inez is still at home; Henry T. is a rider on the Zaca ranch and is well known as a former moving-picture rider with the "Flying A" people of Santa Barbara; and Martha is the wife of Barnard Davis, of the L. O. Quivos Garage.

Marion Cox received his education at the local grammar and high schools of Los Alamos and Santa Ynez. For several years he was a "cow-puncher," and when seventeen years old started to dress tools in the Kern river field. At the end of four months, however, he suffered serious injury caused by distillate poison, and was compelled to lay off. When he resumed work, he engaged with the Eastern Consolidated, on a wild-cat well below Point Conception, on the Santa Anita ranch, where he remained fourteen months. Then he went to Gallagher Bros., above Los Alamos, and worked on another wild-cat well. After that he joined the forces of the Union Oil Co., with whom he remained for five years, laboring as a roustabout and tool-dresser in the Lompoc field. After an apprenticeship of seven years, he was promoted to the position of driller. In that capacity, he first served the New Pacific, this side of Edna in San Luis Obispo County; and then he went back to Midway for five years more of work as a driller. He drilled for the Muscatine Oil Co. at Maricopa; then for the North American; after that for the Santa Fe; next for the Associated; and then for the Honolulu, near Taft, for the M. J. M. & M., near Maricopa, and for the Miocene, near the same place. Then he returned to the Santa Maria fields and worked in the Palmer Annex, and for B. F. Brooks in the Cat cañon; and since September, 1916, he has been employed by the P. A. P. I. Corporation.

Some years ago, in the picturesque and historic old Mission town of San Luis Obispo, Marion Cox led to the altar Miss Ellen Burns, of Lompoc; and with her he has lived in marital bliss ever since, at present residing on the oil company's lease.

**CECIL H. FOWLER.**—Just such a young man as everybody likes—never afraid of hard work, always ready to give a lift and to do anyone a good turn, and certain some day, and probably before very long, to make his mark—is Cecil Haynes Fowler, the assistant storekeeper for the Pan-American Petroleum Investment Corporation, and probably one of the youngest men holding a high position of trust for that responsible concern. His father was the late Albert Fowler, well-known as a California pioneer, and as a ranchman, stockman and farmer, who, at the time of his death in 1903, in his sixtieth year, owned six hundred acres or more of land. His mother, still living at Oceano, was Miss Sarah Ann Henry before her marriage, which took place in the old Mission town of San Luis Obispo. She was born in Clinton county, Ia., went with her parents to Nova Scotia when she was only nine years of age, and came seven years later, by way of Panama, to California, stopping for a while in Lake county and then coming to San Luis Obispo. Four children were born to this pioneer couple: Albert Henry, a justice of the peace at Corcoran and an employe of the sugar company; Harold Melville, a rancher in the Imperial Valley; Adella May, wife of James Rutherford, of Sacramento; and Cecil Haynes.

The subject of our sketch was born near Arroyo Grande, September 5, 1896. He attended the public schools of that progressive town, and later took the commercial and business course at the Arroyo high school, from which he graduated in 1914. His first experience in actual work after leaving school was on a farm in the Imperial Valley, where he worked by the month, remaining two-thirds of a year. He then returned home, and for five months was in the employ of the Fina-Dome Refining Co. In October, 1916, he entered on his present engagement, putting in a month in the company's office, and after that becoming the corporation's assistant storekeeper.

Tall and well built and merry of heart, this cheerful and friendly Italian boy, Cecil Fowler makes numerous friends, through his agreeable personality, whose confidence he wins and holds.

**NICOLA STORNI.**—A prominent retired rancher and progressive citizen now living in San Luis Obispo, where he is well and favorably known. Nicola Storni was born on January 21, 1847, in canton Ticino, Switzerland. His father was a Swiss and his mother an Italian. He was educated in the common schools and learned the trade of painter, which he followed for fifteen years in Germany, where he had gone when thirteen years old, to join an uncle. He worked at his trade during the day and attended night school, in this way obtaining the greater part of his schooling. Afterwards he spent five years in Holland as a painter. Mr. Storni understands and can converse in five languages, is an interesting companion, and has been a great traveler. He came to the United States and stopped for a time in New York; and then, with a party of friends, he journeyed by rail to San Francisco, arriving there July 3, 1876, after a twelve-day trip.

He remained there two months, and then came to Cayucos, San Luis Obispo County, and here he abandoned painting and went to work on a dairy ranch. He later became a partner with his brother-in-law, Ercole Biaggini, in the butcher business at Cayucos, and for twenty years this partnership continued. They built up a fine trade during the intervening years and held the respect of their associates throughout the county. Having bought five hundred twenty-three acres of land, Mr. Storni moved to the ranch and engaged, for fifteen years, in dairying in Green Valley. He was also occupied in raising and selling stock.

As he succeeded in the dairy and stock business, he bought land from time to time, and is now owner of one thousand acres on Cottontail creek and of seven hundred twenty-five acres, formerly the Logan place, between Cayucos and Cambria. These ranches are devoted to the stock business and dairying, and have brought to their owner splendid returns. He gave his personal supervision to the operation of his ranches until his retirement to San Luis Obispo on September 21, 1915, where he is now living free from active pursuits and in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest. In 1910, with some of his relatives, he spent four months in his old home in Switzerland.

Mr. Storni was united in marriage with Miss Caroline Biaggini, a native of Switzerland, and they have seven children. Mrs. Josie Locarnini resides at Orcutt; Mrs. Dina Dickie is in Cambria; Mrs. Livia Mayfield, of San Luis Obispo, is the mother of one child; Mario is in charge of the home ranch; Mrs. Diva Donati lives at Cayucos and is the mother of one son; Armando is in charge of the ranch near Cayucos, and Nicholas is with his brother at Green Valley. Mr. Storni has given his children the advantages of good schools and they have taken their places in the business world and society.

In all matters that have come before him having as their object the up-building of the county and the welfare of the people, Mr. Storni has given his hearty support. He has been a friend of education, and has sought to bring the schools to a high standard of efficiency. When there was talk of organizing a bank at Cambria, he was one of the men who worked hard to accomplish the task; and he is now one of its directors. He is truly a self-made man, for his success has been the result of his own well-directed efforts.

**MICHAEL TONINI.**—A worthy pioneer of 1873 in San Luis Obispo County is Michael Tonini, who was born in canton Ticino, Switzerland, September 1, 1850, and who brought with him to this country those sturdy traits of character that have meant much towards the development of the resources of San Luis Obispo County. As a boy he attended a Swiss school a short time, meanwhile herding the family sheep and goats.

At the age of twenty, in 1870, he came to the United States, and the same year arrived at his goal, California, with but five cents in his pocket, and unable to speak the English language. However, he was blessed with a courage and determination to succeed, and a willingness to work at any honest labor that would yield a living; and going to Marin county, he went to work for a brother on a dairy ranch, where he remained three years. During this time he had become familiar with the methods of doing business in this country. He could speak some English, and he had saved some money, so that he was able to start out for himself.

He came to San Luis Obispo County in 1873, leased land and bought some stock, and engaged in dairying near Chorro. Later he purchased land, and for the following fifteen years had a hard struggle to gain a foothold in his new home. He gave his entire time and attention to his affairs, and was finally successful, and is now independent. He is a self-made man in every sense of the word.

In 1889 Mr. Tonini bought his present ranch of six hundred and thirty-seven acres on the Los Osos plains, which he has developed into one of the finest dairy ranches in the county. His specialty is raising Durham cattle, which he considers superior for the dairy business; and he has given some attention in later years to raising beans. In November, 1916, he bought a home on Pismo street for himself and wife.

Mr. Tonini was united in marriage, November 20, 1876, with Eliza Schieffarly, a native daughter of San Luis Obispo County, who was born here on November 2, 1857, and they have had eleven children, eight of whom are living. These are Mrs. Annie Zanetti of Santa Maria; Mrs. Mary Williams and Mrs. Rachel Rosenthim, both in Bakersfield; Mrs. Lizza Pinana, living on the home ranch; Frank, at Orcutt; Michael, Jr.; John; and Henry. Tilda (Mrs. Gianolini), Josie, and Ella are deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Tonini have eleven grandchildren. The family are all members of the Catholic Church.

**PETER F. MAGORIA.**—A large number of the most successful citizens of San Luis Obispo County have come from Switzerland, and here in the land of opportunity they have worked with a will and have accumulated a competency. Among these men is Peter F. Magoria of Cambria. He was born in the town of Locarno, canton Ticino, October 28, 1881. His father, Joseph Magoria, was born in that same locality and succeeded his father in the hotel business there. In an early day the grandfather Joseph had purchased a convent building there and remodeled it, making of it a modern hotel for that time and place. He called it the Swiss Hotel, and it was favorably known throughout a wide area.

After his father retired from the conduct of this hotel, Joseph assumed charge and carried on the business until 1900, when he, too, retired to private life. He is now living quietly and highly respected in his home locality. His wife was Olympia Cnicherio-Scalabrini, who was born in Giubiasco, canton

Ticino. Her father was a colonel in the Swiss infantry, and her brother, Richard Chicherio-Scalabrini, was judge of the supreme court of that canton.

Peter F. Magoria received his education in the public schools and attended the Collegio Ponteficio d' Ascona, the Istituto Elvetico at Locarno, and the Real Schule, Sarnen. After completing his college course, he went to work in a hotel and served in some of the best hosteleries, among them the Grand Hotel de Berges and Grand Hotel Isotta in Geneva, the Central Hotel at Milan, and Bertolini's Palace Hotel in Naples. While in his own country Mr. Magoria entered on military training, and while in that service he was an officer in the sharpshooters battalion No. 8.

With this varied experience, when twenty-five years of age he left Switzerland and sailed for this country, coming direct to California, where he had a college chum living in Sonoma county. Fifteen days after arriving in California, he secured a position as bookkeeper in the Italian-American Bank of San Francisco, and there he remained four years, resigning his position to engage in business for himself.

In 1910 he came to Cambria with the intention of embarking in the general merchandise trade, as he was told there was a good opening; but instead, he purchased the Hotel Cambria and began to develop a good trade. He built an addition, remodeled the place, added new fixtures and was successfully engaged in the line of business for which his inheritance and years of training had best fitted him; but in 1916 he leased out the place and is devoting his time to looking after his other interests.

On December 6, 1912, he was united in marriage with Miss Rose Filippini, a native of Sonoma county, and a daughter of the late Charles Filippini, a pioneer there and a prominent banker in Petaluma. Mrs. Magoria was educated in Petaluma and Santa Rosa. She is the mother of three children, Olympia, Carlo and Anita. Mr. Magoria is a Republican on national issues. He is an enterprising, progressive citizen, and he and his wife are well and favorably known in the community where they live, and have a wide circle of friends.

**MANUEL P. ROLITA.**—Among the leading business men of San Luis Obispo mention may well be made of Manuel P. Rolita, owner and proprietor of the monument works at 348 Higuera street. He was born on December 2, 1880, in Sao Braz d' Alportel, Faro county, state of Algarve, Portugal, a son of Antonio P. and Mary (Mandes) Rolita, both born and reared in the same Portuguese state. At the age of twelve years Manuel P. started in to learn the trade of stone mason, and after an apprenticeship of several years he mastered it and at the age of seventeen worked in Portugal. Then he went to Spain, and in 1903 helped to build three stone docks at Gibraltar.

Three years later he left there, bound for Rio de Janeiro, and arriving there, he worked on a stone breakwater then being constructed in the harbor. He next came to New York, entering that harbor on February 26, 1906. After a trip to Fall River and to Boston, he took a steamer bound from the latter place to Savannah, Ga. Here he worked for a few months in the swamps, cutting trees and getting out lumber.

After a while, he determined to come to the Coast, and took a train from Savannah for San Francisco, arriving in the fall of 1906; and his first employment was in helping to tear down some of the ruins made by the fire and earthquake of that year. He later dressed a public square in Oakland, Cal.,



months, and then went to Reno, Nev., and was employed on the Western Pacific Railroad in construction work.

Mr. Rolita arrived in San Luis Obispo in 1908. He worked three years at his trade here, and then took a trip to the Hawaiian Islands, where he was engaged in street building. While there he went to Hilo and followed the same work. In Hawaii he married Miss Adelaide Ropozo, who was born in Hilo. In 1912, with his wife, he returned to San Luis Obispo, where he has since resided. He has built up a successful business and owns his own home and plant.

Three children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Rolita: George J., born July 30, 1913; Manuel P., Jr., born February 26, 1915; and Edward, born in March, 1916. Mr. Rolita is a member and past president of the San Luis Obispo Council, No. 25, I. D. E. S. He is also a member of the U. P. E. C. Society and of the A. O. U. D., Mission Grove No. 87, as well as of the Knights of Columbus and the Woodmen of the World. He is a self-made man in every sense of the word, and through his extended travels he has become unusually well informed on general topics.

**SAMUEL MARTIN TOGNAZZINI.**—A native of Australia, Samuel Martin Tognazzini was born at Eganstown, on January 15, 1876, a son of Noe Tognazzini, who was born in Someo, canton Ticino, Switzerland, on February 18, 1841, and went to Australia at the age of fourteen years. There he worked in the mines. Eventually coming to this country, he settled at Point Sal, Santa Barbara county, and successfully engaged in ranching till he retired to Guadalupe, where he died.

Samuel Tognazzini went to school until he was thirteen years old. He was reared on the farm and became used to the hard work necessary to successful ranching. He went to work for wages at an early age, and was employed in several places; and with his savings he started in for himself. He operated a hay press for a time, and later was engaged in drilling wells; and in 1900 he went into the Santa Maria valley, baling hay and boring wells, and followed that work for five or six years. In 1906 he started in the liquor business, which he is carrying on at the present time in Guadalupe.

Mr. Tognazzini is a member of the Knights of Pythias, the Eagles, and of the U. A. O. D., having passed all the chairs of the local order and having served for seven years as a delegate to the state lodge. He was first married in 1905 to Annie Bontadelli, who was born in Guadalupe and who died in San Francisco, March 29, 1915. He was married the second time in Salinas, October 20, 1915, to Mrs. Mercedes (Gaxiola) Nesper, who was born in San Luis Obispo, and was a daughter of Vincent J. Gaxiola, a pioneer of this county. Mr. Tognazzini is a progressive citizen and believes in progress in every branch of industry.

**MANUEL SARMENTO.**—Many of the valued citizens of this county have come from foreign shores, and it is safe to say that no one has the respect of a wider circle of friends and business associates than Manuel Sarmiento. He was born in the Azores Islands, November 27, 1852, and when a little child was taken to Fial island and there reared, educated and taught the carpenter's trade. When he was nineteen years old, he concluded he would strike out for himself; and having heard a great deal about the wonderful state of California on the far western coast, he determined to avail himself of its opportunities. He landed in Boston harbor on Washington's

Birthday, 1873, and came on to San Francisco, arriving with but twenty-five cents in his pocket. He was willing to work, and any honest employment that offered a living was looked for and accepted. He worked for wages for two years, in the northern part of the state, and reached San Luis Obispo County, December 8, 1875, when he went to work for William Sandercock. He saved his money until he had enough to open up a livery stable. He started on a small scale, and gradually built up a fine and paying business, keeping only the best stock and buggies. His courteous treatment brought him many patrons, and for nineteen years he prospered. He invested his money in ranch property at Center Hill and for six years followed farming. In order to better educate his children, he moved to San Luis Obispo, where he has since resided.

Mr. Sarmiento was married to Virginia A. Pino, a native of the island of Fial, and they have had eleven children, of whom eight are living: Mrs. Leonora Hallaway, Manuel Enos, Julia, Frank E., Peter E., John E., George, and Thomas. They were all born in this county, and have been educated in the public schools of San Luis Obispo. Mr. Sarmiento was one of the founders of the Portuguese Lodge, I. D. E. S., and served as president, vice-president, and treasurer; and he is now one of the directors. He is the leading citizen of his nationality in the county, and is highly respected by all with whom he has social or business relations. What he owns has been made by honest work and personal attention to duty. He is a progressive man who supports all public movements that help to build up the county.

**GIOACHINO LANINI.**—A prominent Swiss-American citizen of Santa Barbara county in the vicinity of Guadalupe, where he has been a resident for the past twenty years, G. Lanini was born in Frasco, canton Ticino, Switzerland, July 20, 1864. He attended the public schools until he was fourteen and then worked with his father on the farm until 1883, when he left his native country. On December 15 of that year he arrived in the United States.

Having some brothers in California, young Lanini naturally made this state his objective point, and his first stop was at San Simeon. From there he went to Cayucos, where he began work on a dairy ranch for Mr. Murphy. One year later he found employment with J. and B. Martella and remained with them four years. He then came to Guadalupe and was employed by Joe Tognazzi; and there he stayed until he had saved up enough money to start in for himself.

His first independent venture was with a partner, Ben Lanini, in leasing land in the Los Alamos section, where, for three years, they ran about 1,300 acres to dairying and general farming. Their lease expiring, they moved to another ranch and continued together, farming five years, when the partnership was dissolved. In the meantime, they had increased their holdings to 2,000 acres and had about one hundred twenty-five cows.

After selling out his interests, Mr. Lanini moved into Guadalupe, leased land there and devoted it to raising beans and hay. Again he branched out on a larger scale, when he bought the equipment of the Peter Farini place, ran a dairy of two hundred cows and had 6,000 acres of the Le Roy land. Fourteen successful years were spent on that place, when Mr. Lanini sold out in 1915. In 1911, he had bought his present home place of one hundred sixty acres, and he had been improving it from time to time, and in 1913

moved onto it with his family, although they still ran the large ranch until selling out.

Mr. Lanini is a member of the Swiss Society and is interested in the oil business. He has been very successful with ranching from the start and is well liked by all who know him. He married Regina Lanini, born April 20, 1858, in the same town as himself, the marriage being celebrated in San Luis Obispo on September 20, 1891; and they have three children—Mary, Mrs. W. O. Wolf, of Guadalupe; Silvio and Henry Lanini—all reared and educated in the schools of the county, where their parents are well and favorably known.

**ERNEST J. PEZZONI.**—Practical and altogether useful qualities are disclosed in the results achieved by Ernest J. Pezzoni, a well-known Swiss-American rancher of the vicinity of Guadalupe, who is the manager of the estate of his father, consisting of about 3,000 acres, and who is actively engaged in dairying. Mr. Pezzoni has exhibited untiring zeal in the upbuilding of his section of Santa Barbara county, and is following in the footsteps of his worthy sire, Battista Pezzoni, who was born on a farm in Someo, canton of Ticino, Switzerland.

Battista Pezzoni was reared in his native country until 1856, when he came to the United States, settling in Marin county as soon as he got to California. From there he came to San Luis Obispo County, leased land on San Simeon creek and began the dairy business, carrying it on with success until 1876, when he came to the vicinity of Guadalupe, Santa Barbara county. In partnership with G. Muscio and A. Tognazzini, in 1880, he bought some 8,000 acres near Los Alamos. He purchased what was known as the home place near Guadalupe, of 1,500 acres, improved it, and there ran a dairy. The partnership with his countrymen was dissolved in 1896, when Mr. Pezzoni became owner of 1,200 acres, and this he also devoted to dairying and to stock-raising. He was connected with the Commercial Bank of San Luis Obispo and was a director from its organization until his death, in 1913. His wife, formerly Emily Kent, whom he married in San Simeon, was born in California, and they were the parents of seven children.

The second child in his father's household, Ernest J. Pezzoni, was born on the home ranch on June 10, 1878, attended the grammar school in the Laguna district, and for three years the high school; after which, in 1895-96, he took up bookkeeping. He then went into the Bank of Santa Maria at the opening of that institution, and for three years was employed there. Then he spent two years in Guadalupe in the service of the bank.

In 1902 he took charge of the ranch when his father gave up active work, and has since carried on a successful enterprise on the whole estate, raising beans and engaging in general farming and dairying. Like his father, he has identified himself with all progressive movements, and has supported them liberally, and has given of his time to help build up the business interests of the valley.

In November, 1911, Mr. Pezzoni was united in marriage with Miss Lillian C. Skahcan, who was born in Grass Valley, Nevada county, Cal. Mrs. Pezzoni is an estimable lady. She was principal of the Santa Maria school, and taught for several years prior to her marriage.

Mr. Pezzoni is a member of the Blue Lodge and Chapter in Masonry, being a charter member of the Fidelity Chapter, Santa Maria, and belongs

to the Knights of Pythias. In 1912 he became a director in the Board of Santa Maria upon the retirement of his father, and he holds that position at this time. He is conservative in judgment and his voice on the board lends weight to its councils. He has a host of friends wherever he is known, and is strictly in favor of a square deal for everybody.

**PETER PEROZZI.**—The self-made man in San Luis Obispo County have no more worthy representative than Peter Perozzi, who was born in Sonogno, canton Ticino, Switzerland, September 11, 1860, a son of Antonio Perozzi, a farmer in his native canton. Peter went to school until ten years of age and then had to help support the family, as his father was crippled and could not do hard work. He tended the goats and cows at home, and in winter cleaned chimneys. He served one year in the army, and when he reached his majority he came to America, with California as his objective point, as he had a brother Atilio living in Marin county.

When he arrived here he was unable to speak the English language and was unfamiliar with American ways. He went to work as a ranch hand, and the first money he saved, to the amount of \$150, he had to send back home to repay what he had borrowed to get to California. He spent five years near Olema, Marin county, and in 1886 came to Santa Barbara county. There he worked with his brother as partner, conducting a dairy on shares with the owner, Captain Sudden. He had saved his money, and in 1892 he leased 2,462 acres from Captain Robert Sudden, and bought one hundred twenty-five cows; and for seventeen years he continued dairying near Lompoc.

In 1903 he sold out and bought his present place, called the Tuna Dairy Farm, after a cactus that grows on the place. His first purchase was three hundred thirty-eight acres, to which he added forty in 1905, and five hundred sixty-three acres in 1907. He is now milking forty-five cows. The improvements seen on the ranch have been placed there by its owner, who gives his whole attention to his dairy business.

Mr. Perozzi was married in Switzerland to Maria Sonognini, who was born in the same town in canton Ticino, and they have had eight children. One died, aged four months, and those living are Elvira, Hilda, Walter C., Dennis H., Alice, Lois M., and Fred John.

Mr. Perozzi became a citizen of this country in 1890, in San Francisco, and since that time has supported the Republican party. He served six years as trustee of the Sudden school in the Honda district in Santa Barbara county, and in many ways has done much to advance the cause of education.

**PETER RICHINA.**—A resident of the Golden State since 1881, Peter Richina was born in Robasacco, canton Ticino, Switzerland, on April 4, 1853, the son of Bartholomeo and Sarafina (Leoni) Richini, both born in the same canton and farmers there their entire lives. The father died in 1881, and the mother in 1884. Peter attended school until he was fourteen, and for several years following assisted his father at home. He came to California in 1881 and stopped in San Rafael for about a year; then he went to San Francisco and found work for six months in a dairy near Golden Gate Park. From there he went to Stanislaus county and labored on various dairy ranches until 1886, when he returned to Switzerland and brought his wife back to California the following year.

He located in Santa Barbara county and near Los Alamos worked six months, then going to Guadalupe, where, with two partners, he began the

dairy business. They rented 1400 acres of land and bought cows, and for the following five years prospered. At this time they divided their holdings, and in 1900 Mr. Richina bought three hundred fifty acres in the Los Osos valley, San Luis Obispo County, and in 1902 removed to his ranch. In 1904 he added two hundred more acres, and is leasing three hundred acres of the Crawford ranch. He has a dairy of two hundred cows, and has been meeting with success.

He was married in Switzerland, November 1, 1877, to Mary Farini, who was born in Isone, canton Ticino, in January, 1855. They have had seven children, five of whom are living; Lucy, who married R. Turri; Amelia, the wife of Henry Albert; Lizzie; Adeline, who married B. Guerra; and Charles.

Since becoming a citizen of the United States in 1884, at Modesto, Mr. Richina has taken an active interest in the affairs of his adopted country. For nine years he has served as a trustee of the Stowe school district, and in many ways he has contributed to the welfare of the community.

**FULGENZIO C. RUSCONI.**—Conspicuous among the substantial citizens of Santa Barbara county who have selected agriculture as their vocation in life, and who, judging from appearances, have realized their most sanguine expectations, is F. C. Rusconi, farmer and dairyman in the Santa Maria valley. Mr. Rusconi was born in Sementina, canton Ticino, Switzerland, February 20, 1870, a son of Frank and Liberata Rusconi, both natives of that same canton. There the father, a laborer, was born in 1846. He served in the militia, and in 1881 came to America and to California. In Napa county he worked in the dairy business until 1888. He then returned to his native land and remained for two years, when he again came to California and for two years followed the dairy business in Napa county with success; and returning home with his savings, he was enabled to retire to his little Alpine home, where he is still living with his wife and relatives.

F. C. Rusconi was educated in the common schools of Sementina until he was twelve years of age; then coming to America he joined his father in Napa county and worked at dairying for a time. He saved his money and went to Vallejo, and there established a milk business known as the Flosden Dairy, delivering his product to the citizens of the town. He did not have money to buy land or stock, so he leased both for four years and met with success. Selling out, he again worked for wages until he was able to buy some cows; and then going to Santa Rosa, he leased land and bought cattle and established the Jersey Dairy, for the following two years delivering milk direct to his customers in that town.

Mr. Rusconi next moved to Santa Barbara county, looking for a location in the vicinity of Guadalupe. Here he found employment as butter maker and foreman on the M. and T. Tognazzini ranch, which comprised 2,500 acres, and here he ran a dairy of from two hundred fifty to three hundred cows. He remained in this position for five years, and won the esteem of his employers and of the men who worked under him.

So successful was he in the management of this place that in 1907 he had saved enough money to lease the land and stock, and to carry on the dairy business for himself with success. He also did a general farming, and employed from ten to fifteen men the year round. Many of the improvements seen on that ranch today were the result of his foresight. Modern equipment for the handling of the milk and butter was his idea, and the ranch

under his able and wise management yielded good financial returns. He helped to develop two hundred fifty acres on his alfalfa, well irrigated with a system installed by himself and partner, and he it was who plowed the first furrow on some of the property. He has devoted his time and attention to the cultivation and improvement of this land and now superintends the work of the ranch.

Mr. Rusconi is a friend of education and has served efficiently as trustee of the Laguna school district for years, acting also as clerk of the board. One year he served as a trustee of the Santa Maria high school. He is a Republican in politics and fraternally is a member of the Elks and of the U. A. O. D.; and when living in Vallejo, he belonged to the Odd Fellows. He is a man of strong character, well educated, and has won a high standing among the citizens of his community, where he is known as a man of sterling worth. He is what is termed a self-made man in its truest sense.

Mr. Rusconi has been twice married. On the first occasion, in Napa county, he was united with Miss Jose Diana, a native of Locarno, canton Ticino, Switzerland. They had three children, Frank and Charles, both deceased, and Mayme. The second marriage united him with Miss Josie Tognazzinni, a native of Australia, their wedding being celebrated May 1, 1905. Their children are: Theodore, Christine, Wilford, Leola and Vivian.

**JOSEPH S. LUIS.**—The year 1873 marks the date of the arrival of J. S. Luis in California, since which time he has had varied experiences. He has suffered losses, and met many discouragements, but has finally overcome all obstacles, and is now living retired in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest. Mr. Luis was born on the island of St. George, in the Azores, July 22, 1855, and his schooling was limited, for the schools were few in number, and his parents poor. The lad had to start working on the farm to help his parents, and so he continued until 1873, when he left home and came to the United States, with California his objective point.

He traveled via Panama to San Francisco, and from there by boat to Port Avila. He could not speak English, nor did he know the methods that prevailed in this country; but he could work, and took the first job that offered, which was picking rocks off the land owned by Thomas Barrett. He kept at this task for a few weeks and then went to work for Steele Bros., remaining on their ranch for five years.

The dry year came on, however, and they had no cash with which to pay his wages; so they gave him eighty acres, and becoming a landowner, Mr. Luis began raising beans. But he lost everything the first year. He then rented his land and went back to work for wages with Steele Bros.; and having been a cheese-maker, he engaged in that work for a while. Returning to his property, he made another start, and was successful.

In 1881, he married Mary T. Freitas, a native of Santa Cruz, of whom two children were born, Emanuel R. and Joseph S., now both dairymen in the Edna district. Success followed the efforts of Mr. Luis for several years on his ranch; but his wife's health failed, and hoping to benefit her, he took a trip back to his native country where, soon after their arrival, in 1885, Mrs. Luis died. The boys were young, and to be near and help his mother care for them, he stayed two years before he came back to California.

On his return to the United States in 1887, Mr. Luis was married in Boston, on October 10, to Maria V. Lopez, who was also born in St. George

island, on June 29, 1868. For the thirteen years following his return to America, Mr. Luis farmed his ranch in the Arroyo Grande section with a fair degree of success, raising beans principally; but they were cheap at that time and he decided he would try some other line of industry.

In partnership, therefore, with M. M. Silva, he bought forty cows of E. W. Steele when he went out of business, and they embarked in dairying. In 1900 the partners leased seven hundred acres of the Steele ranch and enlarged their dairy business considerably, and so well did they succeed that Mr. Luis bought his partner's interests at the end of five years, and ran the place alone until 1908. He then sold out and bought twenty acres of land near Edna, which he calls his home place, and here, after long years of hard work, he has settled down to enjoy a well-earned rest.

Besides his home, Mr. Luis owns five ranches in San Luis Obispo county, and his income from these is ample to keep him in comfort the rest of his days. He is a member of the Catholic Church, is a Republican in politics, and fraternally belongs to the U. P. E. C. and the I. D. E. S.

**AUGUSTO VILLI.**—A Swiss-American citizen, but a native of France, Augusto Villi was born near Paris in 1874, a son of Carlo and Teresa Villi, both born and reared in the canton of Ticino, Switzerland, where the father was engaged in dairying until he moved to Paris. Here he began work at his trade in the glass works, and soon after he commenced contracting for himself in laying glass roofs on buildings, and was engaged in that occupation until his death, in 1885, which occurred in Paris.

Augusto attended the public schools near Paris until he was twelve years old, and then came to California, where a brother-in-law was living at the time. He arrived in 1886, made his home with his relative and attended school near Chorro; and then he went to work for another relative, Joe Bassi, remaining in his employ three years. For the next three years he was employed by L. Tomasini, after which he went into partnership with him and continued for one year on the R. E. Jacks ranch, renting 2,000 acres of land.

In 1895, Mr. Villi bought his partner's interest, and has carried on the business ever since. In 1908, he moved to his present place on account of the high rent of the former, and here he has seven hundred acres which he devotes to dairying and raising beans with good success. In 1908, with the savings of the past years, he bought three hundred thirty acres of land near Stafford, Kings county, which is rented.

Mr. Villi became a citizen of this country in 1895 in San Luis Obispo, and since then he has voted the Republican ticket; and he has served as a trustee of the Hope school district. He was married May 23, 1903, to Miss Angiolina Scettrini, who was born April 5, 1869, in canton Ticino, Switzerland, and who came to this country in 1902.

**CHARLES MONIGHETTI.**—The eldest son of A. Monighetti, a California pioneer of 1879, Charles Monighetti was born in Biasca, Canton Ticino, Switzerland, on June 6, 1869. His father was born in the same place and followed farming there until 1879, when he came to California and located in San Luis Obispo County. At Cambria he worked for wages for a few years, and then with his savings began renting land and dairying for himself on San Simeon creek, continuing there for six years. Selling out, he went to work for E. W. Steele as manager of the Steele estate, and while

filling this position, was gored by a bull and died in 1897, aged forty-six years. He had left his wife and children in Switzerland, expecting to have them join him in this state.

Charles attended school in his native town until he was fourteen, and then came to America and joined his father in California. The first four years in California were spent with his father, and for the following five years thereafter he worked for wages. Then he started for himself by renting land and about sixty milch cows from George Ross near Lodi and began a dairy until the expiration of the lease, five years later. The next two years he leased nine hundred acres of A. Morera, and in 1871 made a dairy purchase of one hundred twenty acres near Lemoore, Kings county, which he kept about two years and then sold. At about the same time he bought six hundred acres near Edna, the same being a portion of the Hollister tract, and there began raising beans and grain, and running a dairy. Up to the present time he has met with success.

Mr. Monighetti was married on January 21, 1896, in San Luis Obispo, to Miss Dora Rodoni, a native daughter, born in San Jose, March 31, 1875, a daughter of M. and Constance Rodoni, natives of canton Ticino, who settled in California in 1872. Mr. and Mrs. Monighetti have three children, Leslie, Raymond and Mary.

Mr. Monighetti became a naturalized citizen in 1890, is independent in politics, supporting the men he considers best suited for the offices, and is a self-made man. With his family he belongs to the Catholic Church. His father, when killed, left a wife, Maria Delmuve, and six children in Switzerland; and Charles, being the oldest of the children, has had to aid in the support of the other members of the family, some of whom still live in the old country. With all of his responsibilities, he has won a name and place for himself in the county of his adoption, and is well and favorably known throughout his part of the county.

**INNOCENTI GIUMINI.**—Leaving home and friends at the age of fifteen years and coming to a new country to make his home, while being unfamiliar with the foreign language and customs, was the lot of I. Giumini, who was born in Guimaglio, canton of Ticino, Switzerland, December 28, 1868. His schooling was limited to the grammar grades in his native land, and he was raised on the home farm and inured to hard work at an early age.

One of his brothers had come to California and was in San Luis Obispo county, and it was natural that the lad should come where he was. In 1884 he arrived in Cayucos and started to work on a ranch in the Los Osos valley, and continued at Cayucos. With the money he saved from his wages, he started out for himself, when about twenty-one years old, by renting some land on San Simeon creek and buying seventy-five cows, and for the following eleven years he carried on the dairy business. He succeeded and then sold out and started in again at Chorro, on the Banning place.

He once more went back to Los Osos and remained until he purchased some land of his own in the east Santa Fe district in 1912, when he bought two hundred sixty acres and forty-five cows; and since then he has conducted a successful dairy and stock business.

He became a citizen of the United States in 1893, and has served on the board of trustees of the East Santa Fe school district four years. In politics he is a Republican.



Mr. Giumini married Miss Pia Bassi, who, like himself, is a native of canton Ticino. This was in 1893, and they have four children to brighten their home, Giglia, Cesare, Natalina and Ernesto. Mr. Giumini is a member of the Catholic Church.

**MANUEL F. AVILA.**—A practical farmer of the Edna section of San Luis Obispo County, Manuel F. Avila started as a laborer in 1892, at twenty-five dollars per month, and by good management and hard work is now independent. He was born in the Azores Islands, in May, 1866, went to school there, and was raised on a farm and learned farming as carried on in his native country. He was ambitious and could see no chance to go ahead at home; so when opportunity offered, he came to the United States and to California, of which he had heard much from others who had settled here.

He arrived in this county in 1892, found employment with Frank Burke, and for twelve years worked for wages. He saved \$3,000, leased 1,000 acres of land, bought eighty-five cows and launched out in the dairy business; and so successful was he that in 1910 he purchased two hundred forty acres near the tank farm, leased it to others, and that same year went out of the dairy business, selling his cows and taking up general farming.

Mr. Avila became a citizen of the United States in 1914, and in 1916 voted the first time, casting a ballot for Republican candidates. Fraternally, he is a member of the U. P. E. C.

In September, 1906, Mr. Avila and Miss Josefina Sikuria, a native of his own country, were united in marriage. They have four children, Manuel, Josefina, Angelina and Francisco. Mr. Avila is a progressive Portuguese rancher, finds pleasure in helping others, and believes in a high standard of education. He is broad in his views on general matters of government, and takes an intelligent interest in all measures for the betterment of his community.

**JOHN TOGNAZZINI.**—The different lines of industry have been tried by many of the sons of Switzerland with varied results, but the most successful line of endeavor is the dairy business. Among those who have made a success in this field is John Tognazzini, a native of Someo, where he was born on July 20, 1854. He attended school until fourteen, when he had to go to work, and the following three years were spent on the home farm in canton Ticino.

In 1871, he made up his mind that the New World held better inducements for him, and he started for California. Arriving in Marin county, he began work on various ranches until he had saved enough to start in for himself. He first rented forty cows and some land, and tried dairying under those conditions; but he did not prosper, so he moved to Sonoma county and experimented there for a year. Selling out, he again worked for wages for three years. In 1881 he came to Cayucos and was employed by A. Muscio for a year. In 1883, he went to Santa Barbara county and again started for himself near Guadalupe, continuing until 1892, when he sold out and went back to Switzerland.

While there he was married, on April 25, 1892, to Ricilla Ferrari, who was born there December 25, 1870. Remaining in his native country two years, he brought his wife to California, and in Santa Barbara county he again took up dairying. He leased land, bought stock and for six years remained there.

Selling out in 1899, Mr. Tognazzini moved to San Luis Obispo County, bought twenty acres near Edna, and began raising beans. He has added land until he now owns one hundred twenty-six acres. In 1900, he opened a general merchandise store in Edna, but soon after, in 1906, it burned down with a loss of over five thousand dollars. He now owns the building where the Bank of Guadalupe is located. Mr. Tognazzini is a Republican in his political views; and as a friend of education he has served as school trustee of his district for several years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Tognazzini five children have been born: Griselda, postmaster at Edna, Elsie, Guido, Lucca and Alma—all born and raised in California, and educated in the public schools.

**BERNARDO MIOSSI.**—Dairying has been the most popular and profitable business carried on in San Luis Obispo County and environs for many years. The hills are fine for grazing, and the fertile valleys produce heavy crops of grain, hay and vegetables. Among the most successful men who have brought the dairy industry to its present remunerative condition are the Swiss, who have found here an environment much like that of their native land, and hence have revolutionized ranching in California. One of the pioneers in the industry is Bernardo Miossi, of the Edna district. He was born in Frasco, canton Ticino, Switzerland, January 15, 1848, attended the public schools there until he was fourteen, and was reared on the home farm and helped with the cattle, sheep and goats until he was seventeen. In 1865 he set out for California, coming via Panama and arriving in San Francisco in February, 1866.

Mr. Miossi was unable to speak our language and knew nothing of business methods as employed in this country, but he did know how to work and was willing to learn American ways at almost any price. Consequently he took the first job that was offered. For two years he worked for wages and saved his earnings, and then he saw an opportunity to start a milk route in San Francisco. He rented land on Washervoman's Bay, bought cows and started in a small way, gradually increasing his scope of business, and for fifteen years adding to his dairy from year to year, and gaining prestige as a man of business acumen. In 1881 he sold out and moved to Pigeon Point, San Mateo county, where he remained two years and then came south to San Luis Obispo County.

The first purchase of land by Mr. Miossi, in 1883, was one thousand acres, now part of the home place, and in 1891 he added thirteen hundred acres of the Pismo grant, purchasing it from John M. Price. In 1900 he bought twelve hundred acres of the Pacheco ranch on the Los Osos, adjoining A. B. Spooner's ranch, making thirty-six hundred acres, all of which is devoted to stock and dairying. The home place nestles in a small valley and is surrounded by hills, which are used for grazing, while the bottom land is a sandy loam and will produce anything planted. It is used for grain, corn and beans. The improvements on the ranch have all been placed there by Mr. Miossi; house, barns and outbuildings are in good condition, having been substantially built. There are buildings adapted for various uses, carpenter and blacksmith shops, and the first silo built in this section of the county was erected here. The climate here is mild and the air bracing. The owner of the ranch has experimented with raising tobacco, and has had very satisfactory results; he has also planted ten acres to oats, and they have grown

to be seven feet in height and have yielded forty-six sacks to the acre. His place is free from ground-squirrels, although it took ten years to exterminate them. This productive ranch is one of the most desirable in the county, and it has made its owner independently wealthy, so that after years of strenuous labor he is now retired, although giving counsel to his sons, who are managing the large ranch.

In 1883, in San Francisco, Mr. Miossi was united in marriage with Miss Eliza Martella, a native of Switzerland, born in canton Ticino, and they have five children, all natives of this county: Mary, Bernard, Arthur, Alfred and Alma. The three sons were educated in the public schools and took a course in the State Polytechnic, and now have charge of the ranch. They are up-to-date young men and hustlers, have introduced new ideas and methods into the old-established business, and are winning out. The dairy has about one hundred cows, and is modern and sanitary.

Mr. Miossi is a Mason and Odd Fellow, belonging to lodges in San Francisco. For years he was an active member of the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce. He has shown his public spirit in supporting all worthy measures for bringing San Luis Obispo County to the notice of the world at large, is very charitable and unostentatious, and is, withal, a good citizen and honored by every one who knows him.

**JOSEPH C. MARETTI.**—Self-made men are much in evidence in California; and none of them have better succeeded in making a name for themselves than has Joseph C. Maretti of Guadalupe, Santa Barbara county. He was born at San Antonio, canton Ticino, Switzerland, March 19, 1864, a son of John and Mary Maretti, natives of Switzerland and farmer folks, both of whom are now dead.

Joseph C. Maretti was one in a family of seven children born to his parents. He attended the schools of his native land, grew to manhood on the home farm and became familiar with dairying. After he had finished school at fourteen years of age, he went to Belgium, where his brother, Frank Maretti, had a glass factory, and there he learned the trade of a glazier, and for two years took contracts for putting in glass windows. In 1881, with another brother, he came to New York and hired out to learn cooking, after which he followed that line of work for nineteen months, at the Gilsey House on Twenty-seventh street, New York.

Having read a great deal about cheap land in California, and wishing to own a farm of his own, he quit his job of cooking and in 1883 landed in Cayucos, San Luis Obispo County. Having never learned to milk, the first thing Joseph C. Maretti did was to acquire that art, and for nine months he worked for Peter Tognazzini. Then he went to work for the Pacific Coast Coal Co. in their timber camp, but gave up that occupation to work for a year in the dairy of Antone Righetti. On January 1, 1886, he arrived in Guadalupe. He worked for wages for three years, and then started in for himself, with John Tognazzini as a partner. They rented land and bought seventy cows, and later he sold his share to his partner. He cleared \$1,900 the first year that he was in business, and this gave him a start for himself and enabled him to buy out Anton Tognazzini's dairy. He became an expert in the handling of cows and for ten years was successful.

Mr. Maretti purchased property in Guadalupe in 1901; in 1910 he bought six hundred sixty acres in Lompoc valley, now devoted to dairying and

farming. In 1898, having three hundred head of dairy cows, he was hard hit by the dry years, which almost ruined the dairy business. On account of no feed for the stock, Mr. Maretti drove his cattle over the mountains to the Bakersfield section and had to give half of his numbers of cows to make the balance. He was in debt over five thousand dollars, but two successful years cleared off the debt, and he began to lay up money from his various investments. Since 1901 he has been leasing the Salisbury & Leroy place of about twenty-eight hundred acres, where he is engaged in farming and dairying, the ranch being operated by his two sons on shares. Mr. Maretti and his wife own three hundred fifteen acres of oil land at Casmalia.

On January 19, 1891, Mr. Maretti was united in marriage with Miss Anita Pasque, who was born in Casmalia, December 17, 1873, their wedding being celebrated in Santa Barbara. They have two children, Richard and Charles, who are farming and dairying on his place. In 1901, Mr. Maretti became a citizen of the United States. Mr. Maretti is a Republican and has served six years as a member of the County Central Committee. For nine years he was school trustee of the Guadalupe district, and for three terms was clerk of the board. He is a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. Elks, and of Laguna Lodge, I. O. O. F., and is Vice Grand of the local order.

**ANTONE SILACCI.**—The possibilities afforded by California to those seeking a livelihood within its borders find illustration in the life of Antone Silacci, who left Europe a poor boy and by hard work has achieved success in San Luis Obispo County, where he now resides. Of Swiss birth, Antone Silacci was born in Intragna, canton Ticino, December 18, 1862, a son of Domenico Silacci, who is still living in canton Ticino and busy with farming.

Antone Silacci grew to manhood on the home farm, attending public school for a short time as his services were not needed about the farm and dairy. At the age of fifteen he started to learn the trade of carpenter, following it for two years, when, having received letters from a brother who had been in California for some time and had prospered in the dairy business in the neighborhood of Cambria, San Luis Obispo County, he concluded that America and its extreme West held out better inducements for young men. He left Switzerland for this country and arrived in October, 1880, via New York and San Francisco, and came immediately to Cambria and found employment on a dairy ranch near Cayucos. He worked for his brother milking cows and at times helped to build barns for the dairymen between San Simeon and Morro. In 1885 he entered the service of A. Muscio, and the following year was employed on another dairy.

Having a desire once more to see his parents, Mr. Silacci went back to his native land, ten years after coming to California; and on his return to Cayucos, he began to make butter boxes for the dairymen of this vicinity. In 1892 he rented the Joe Muscio ranch of six hundred seventy acres, bought stock and started in the dairy business himself, prospering until the dry year in 1898, when he lost all he had made.

Nothing daunted he continued dairying and retrieved what he had lost. He ran the Joe Muscio place for twenty years, and saved enough money to buy his present place of six hundred fifty acres on Villa creek, where he for four years continued operating both places as dairies. Then he turned the Muscio lease over to his sons Louis and Donald, sold them the stock and im-

plements, and they now carry on the business there. The home ranch of Mr. Silacci is improved with a residence, dairy house and barns. Water is piped from a spring to the house, and the separator is run by water power. The place yields enough feed for about eighty milch cows.

In 1902, Mr. Silacci became a naturalized citizen, and since then has taken an active interest in politics, serving as one of the trustees of Someo school district. In that position he has endeavored to bring the school to a high standard during the fourteen years he has been in office. Mr. Silacci was united in marriage, at Intragna, Switzerland, on December 10, 1890, with Miss Elvezia Cavalli, a native of Sornico, canton Ticino, and they have nine children: Louis, Nina, Donald, Romeo, Lucy, Emma, Elva, Mini and Milton, all born in San Luis Obispo County. The family are members of St. Joseph's Catholic Church at Cayucos. Mr. Silacci's word once given is as good as his bond; and by his honesty he has gained the esteem of all who know him.

**JOHN GHIGLIOTTI.**—Many a traveler to the old Mission town of San Luis Obispo owes the pleasant impression he has carried away from that comfortable place to the kindly attentions of John Ghigliotti, a son of James Ghigliotti, who was born in the splendid old seaport town of Genoa, in Italy, about 1830, and Jolina Paggi, who was married in Genoa, where she also was born. John's father was a mason in a country where one needed to be right smart to hold his own in that trade, and understanding that there was such a call for expert workmen in the United States that he would be likely to do better here than in Europe, he came to America, bringing his beautiful bride with him, and settled for a while in Baltimore.

Then he moved to Pittsburgh, and it was in that city, not yet clouded with smoke, that John Ghigliotti was born, in July, 1866. A migration westward led James Ghigliotti and his young family to San Francisco in 1878, and one month later to San Luis Obispo County.

There he established his home, taking up the work of a carpenter, in which he was equally proficient; and there on July 20, 1906, he died, his devoted wife surviving him until November 23, 1914. Five children were the issue of James Ghigliotti's marriage.

For twenty-two years John Ghigliotti served as a steward at the French and Cosmopolitan hotels. He later became a partner with John Price in the sale of liquor at San Luis Obispo, where he continues business.

**VICTOR RICIOLI.**—Another worthy son of Switzerland who has demonstrated what can be done by hard work and good management is Victor Ricioli, who was born in the town of Maggia, canton Ticino, Switzerland, November 7, 1874. His father, James Ricioli, was also a native of that canton and came to California via Panama, to San Francisco, in 1859, seeking gold in the mines in the Sierras. He followed mining for some time, and was employed at farming in Marin county.

In 1870 he returned to his old home in Switzerland and there married Miss Carmela de Bernardi, who was also born in Maggia. Mr. Ricioli then purchased land adjoining his father's, where he engaged in farming until about 1877, when he again came to California, leaving his family on his Swiss farm. He came to San Luis Obispo and followed dairying, locating on the coast. One year he ran a dairy in Harmony valley, and one year at Casmalia in Santa Barbara county. In 1899 he went back to Switzerland and once more took up farming there; and there he has since remained. Prior to

coming to this country he had school in the Swiss army 1860-68. Of the five children, Victor is the second oldest.

Victor Ricioli attended the public school in his native town until he was fifteen, and then worked at farming. In 1891 he came to the United States, and on his arrival in California went to Cayucos. Here he found work on a dairy ranch on Toro creek. One year later he was in the employ of A. Muscio, remaining on his ranch for the following five years. In 1889, having saved enough out of his earnings to go into business for himself, he leased a small ranch in Harmony valley and for two years was successfully engaged in farming. Mr. Ricioli then bought a herd of one hundred ten cows and leased nine hundred acres of land, part of the Murphy ranch in Harmony district; and there he followed dairying with success.

In 1916 he sold his stock and implements and has since devoted his entire attention to the development of his own property of three hundred sixty acres, bought in 1912, on which he has carried on a dairy of about sixty cows and made many improvements, converting the place into a very comfortable home. Mr. Ricioli's ranch is located in the Harmony district, six and one-half miles south of Cambria, and is well watered by springs and small creeks. Water is piped from a near-by spring to his farm buildings. He uses steam power to run his separator, and the cream is sent to Harmony Creamery.

Mr. Ricioli took out his citizenship papers in 1905, and since then he has been active in politics as a Republican. In all enterprises, too, that have had for their object the betterment of the community and the uplift of the citizens, he has taken an active interest and given his support. He was one of the prime movers and original organizers of the Harmony Valley Creamery Association and served as its first president. He is a member of the Cayucos lodge, U. A. O. D., and is past archer.

On October 30, 1907, at Cayucos, he was united in marriage with Miss Annie Sartori, who was born in Cambria, April 4, 1890. They have become the parents of four children, Ernest, Alfred, Mabel and Laura. Mrs. Ricioli is the daughter of James and Mary (Ballestra) Sartori, natives of Gera, canton Ticino, who came to San Luis Obispo County and have resided in Chorro valley ever since their arrival here.

**JOHN D. FISCALINI.**—A native of Switzerland, J. D. Fiscalini was born October 17, 1876, in the town of Borgnone, canton Ticino. His father was Filippo Fiscalini, a native of the same place, who was born in February, 1842, and was by trade a sawyer when all such work was done by hand, as there were no sawmills in that country at the time. During 1870 and 1871 he served in the army and saw military service on the border during the Franco-German war. In 1881, hoping to better his condition, he came alone to this country, with California as his stopping point. He went to St. Helena, Napa county, and was employed in a vineyard for a time; about six years later he was taken with a severe illness, and went to San Francisco. As soon as he had recovered he found work in a distillery, where he remained for years. He had been very saving of his earnings, and after a residence of almost twelve years in the city, returned to his native country, where he lived up to the time of his death. He started the school as a teacher in the school in the district in which he lived, and was likewise a trustee of the town. He married, in 1872, Josie Madonna, who was born in canton Ticino, in 1847, and died in 1880. There were five children born to them, two of

whom are living, and the subject of our sketch was the third child of the family.

John D. Fiscalini was educated in the common schools of his native country, and also took up the study of engineering there. His opportunities were a little better than those of many other children, and he took a three years' course in the high school. He went to work to support himself after his school days were over, and found employment on a dairy farm in the Alps.

In 1894 he came to California, and arriving in San Simeon, San Luis Obispo County, went to work on the dairy ranch conducted by his cousin, Charles Fiscalini, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work. He saved his money and soon was able to embark in business for himself; for, having worked on a large ranch near the lighthouse, and having later had charge, for two years, of the A. Luchessa ranch, he had confidence in his ability to act independently in business.

In 1905 he purchased the interest held by Mr. Luchessa in the stock and farm implements, and leased the seven hundred fifty acres of land on San Simeon creek, for six years, where he engaged successfully in dairying and general farming. He became owner of one hundred fifty acres, with milch cows, and was considered successful by his friends.

In October, 1909, he formed a partnership with John Filipponi and leased three thousand acres of the lower Hearst ranch at the mouth of Green valley. There they engaged in farming, dairying and stock-raising, and also raised beans. They had about four hundred head of cattle, and milked about two hundred fifty cows. They continued together four years, and then dissolved partnership, dividing the stock and implements; and each leased fifteen hundred acres, since which time Mr. Fiscalini has continued farming and dairying here. He now has about one hundred seventy-five milch cows, and is raising hay, grain and beans. The place is equipped with modern buildings, and he has running water in the dairy house and operates his separator by water power.

In San Francisco, on November 9, 1903, Mr. Fiscalini was united in marriage with Miss Annie Pizzoni, a native of Intragna, canton Ticino, Switzerland, and a daughter of Gothardo and Mary Pizzoni, farmers in their native country. Her father made two trips to California. Mr. and Mrs. Fiscalini are parents of four children: Josie, deceased, and Mary, Archie and Mabel. In 1913, when the Harmony Valley Creamery Association was organized, Mr. Fiscalini became a stockholder and a director, and he has devoted considerable attention to making it a successful enterprise.

He became a citizen of the United States in 1901 in San Luis Obispo, and in politics is a Republican. He is a self-made man in every sense of the word, and is highly respected by all who know him and have dealings with him.

**JAMES LUCHESSA.**—The qualities which bring success to a man, when in a strange country and among a people whose language is unfamiliar, are certainly of no ordinary kind. In the life of James Luchessa there were many obstacles to be overcome, hence the success he has attained merits special consideration. Born of Swiss parents, in Lavertezzo, canton Ticino, Switzerland, August 8, 1863, he attended the common schools and worked with his father on their home dairy farm. He could see no advancement for himself under existing conditions there, and therefore left his home for California, arriving in December, 1882, in Cambria. A brother, Antonio, had come to this

country some years previously and was engaged in dairying; so James went to work for him, remaining six years in his employ. Having saved some money from his wages, he formed a partnership with his brother, rented nine hundred acres of land, bought one hundred fifty head of cows and followed dairying until 1893, when they divided up and dissolved partnership. Moving to Santa Rosa creek with his stock, he rented one thousand acres of land and followed the dairy business for three years independently.

In 1896 he sold out and moved to Cambria, and went to work in the quicksilver mines; and there he remained until 1900, when he again took up dairying on a four hundred acre ranch, known as the Kaiser place. Two years later he rented the Leffingwell ranch and bought fifty cows, continuing until 1908, when he leased a part of the Hearst ranch known as Roller Cruz, running it for six years. During this time he bought three hundred fourteen acres in Harmony valley, conducting both places, but residing on Roller Cruz ranch. In 1914 he sold the Harmony valley place at a good profit and bought four hundred acres, his present home place, on San Simeon creek, four miles from Cambria; and there he has since carried on a successful dairy business, milking about fifty cows, and raising grain, hay and beans.

In San Luis Obispo, on September 14, 1892, Mr. Luchessa was united in marriage with Miss Victoria Antognini, who was born at Ticino, Italy, in 1867. Their children are Erminia and Erina, twin daughters, and Aldo, Liva, Eddie and Linda.

Though devoting his attention mainly to his own business, Mr. Luchessa has not neglected the duties of a citizen; he became naturalized in 1894; and he has served as school trustee for a number of years. In 1900 he was a publican. While he is now rated one of the leading men and successful citizens of the county, his position has been won by hard work, and good management.

**LOUIS BETTIGA.**—Many of the sons of Italy have come to this country and settled in California, where they have found conditions more or less similar to those in the mother country. Especially is this true of climate and topography, which favor the same vocations that were their means of livelihood in the Old World. Among these men we mention Louis Bettiga, a native of Como, Italy, born December 22, 1872. He attended school there for a time, remaining on the home farm and assisting his father until the age of twenty, when he enlisted as a private in an artillery regiment in the army and served two years.

In November, 1895, Mr. Bettiga left Italy for the United States, with California as his ultimate destination. He had a brother living in Santa Barbara county, and on arriving in San Francisco, immediately joined him at Guadalupe and there found work on a dairy ranch; and for the following seven years he worked for wages. In 1902, with two partners, Mr. Bettiga leased land near Guadalupe and for five years engaged in the farming and dairy business, with satisfactory results. In 1907, he moved to Villa creek and rented eleven hundred acres from Ercole Biaggini, and here he is raising alfalfa and has a dairy herd of one hundred thirty-five cows, and is meeting with decided success in his enterprise.

On April 8, 1905, Mr. Bettiga was united in marriage, at San Luis Obispo, with Miss Bessie Sartori, who was born in Cambria, January 1, 1889, a daughter of James Sartori, a pioneer of Cambria, now a dairyman in Chorro



district. Five children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Bettiga: Albert, Vicente, Mary, James and Francis. Mr. Bettiga is a Republican in politics, but not an office seeker. While serving as a member of the school board, he has endeavored to bring the school of Someo district to a high standard.

**LOUIS FERRASCI.**—The worthy sons of the Swiss republic who have made homes for themselves in America and have devoted their energies to the upbuilding of their adopted communities find no more representative a man than Louis Ferrasci. He was born in Frasco, canton Ticino, June 30, 1862, a son of Agostino and Cecilia (Fratessa) Ferrasci, both natives of that canton, the former having been born on August 18, 1823, and the latter in 1822. They had four sons and four daughters. In the early days of mining, the father went to Australia in search of gold, remaining there three years, meeting with success and finally returning to his native land, where his wife died in 1874 and he is still living at the advanced age of ninety-three years. He was town sexton for many years, and active in all public affairs. The grandfather was also named Agostino and was born in 1760, dying at seventy-seven years of age in his native locality.

Louis Ferrasci attended the public schools until he was fifteen years of age, and the following four years assisted his father with the farm work. In 1881, he decided he could better his condition in new environments, and accordingly left for California, locating in the Chorro district in San Luis Obispo County. The first two years were spent in the employ of L. Lesnini; after which, in partnership with his two brothers, Abbondio and Angelo Ferrasci, he rented two thousand acres of the Chorro ranch and engaged in farming and dairying, milking three hundred cows.

In 1890, on account of ill health, Mr. Ferrasci sold out to his brothers and went back to Switzerland. The change was beneficial, and one year later he returned to California and bought a half interest from his brothers in the Chorro ranch, six miles from San Luis Obispo, and continued dairying, giving all of his time to the occupation, and meeting with marked success for nine years. Then he sold out and moved to Cambria. He bought four hundred fifty-six acres of the Santa Rosa ranch, about one mile east of Cambria, which is now the beautiful home place, and here he has a dairy of sixty cows. About two hundred acres is bottom land, some forty acres being devoted to bean-raising each year, while the balance is given to grain, hay and green feed for the dairy herd. He also owns seven hundred forty-two acres three miles south of Cambria, with two miles of ocean frontage, devoted to dairying, the place—now leased out—being able to sustain about eighty cows. His farming operations are carried on with modern machinery, including a Case tractor engine, 10-20 horse-power, and all other improved appliances.

In November, 1892, in San Francisco, occurred the marriage of Louis Ferrasci with Miss Lucia Danini, who was born December 4, 1873, in Frasco, canton Ticino, Switzerland, a daughter of Peter and Mary (Giottonini) Danini, farmer folks of that place. Mr. and Mrs. Ferrasci have three children: Ida, now Mrs. Badasci of Riverdale; Silva, and Ulysses.

On August 6, 1888, Mr. Ferrasci became an American citizen. He is a Republican in politics, has taken an active interest in the public schools, and is serving as a trustee of the Santa Rosa school district. He was one of the organizers of the Bank of Cambria, in 1903, was elected

a director and a member of the finance committee at the first meeting, and has ever since retained an interest in the welfare of the institution. He has been successful in his undertakings in this county, and is respected by all who know him.

**MARIUS G. SALMINA.**—Many men who have attained places of responsibility in the business and agricultural life of San Luis Obispo County are of foreign birth. Of this number M. G. Salmina, one of the leading citizens of Cambria, was born in canton Ticino, Switzerland, on May 29, 1876, a son of Alex and Caterina Salmina, both natives of Switzerland. The father was a stone mason by trade, and when this son was born was crossing the Atlantic en route to America to seek his fortune. He came to California and located in Napa county, and remained eleven years, becoming an American citizen in the meantime. He then returned to his native country and remained there until his death in 1915.

M. G. Salmina attended the public schools and lived at home until 1888. Then he was apprenticed to learn the trade of blacksmith, in a shop about seven miles from his home; but after working two years he was paid only fifteen cents per week for his services, and he left to go to another shop, where he received twenty-five cents per day and had to board himself, and this arrangement continued for a year. He was not satisfied with such small wages, and he began to learn the mason's trade, but did not finish it.

In 1891 he left his home for California, having a brother, Paul, living near Cambria who was dairying on the McFadden ranch, on Santa Rosa creek. He worked on this ranch three months and attended school two weeks, and at the end of that time he could speak some English. He learned to milk and then hired out to a Swiss on the Van Gordon ranch.

In 1902 he took a course in the dairy school at Berkeley, a department of the State University. He then went to Gilroy, where he accepted a position offered him by the J. P. Sargent Estate Co. as manager of their dairy and cheese factory. The dairy consisted of three hundred cows. He became proficient in making cheese and butter, retained the position two years and gave excellent service and satisfaction.

He later found employment in Orr's cheese factory at San Felippi, and managed it two years, when he made a visit to his home in Switzerland. In the fall of 1907 he came back to California and located in Harmony valley, San Luis Obispo County, where he began to make cheese for his brother's ranch on a small scale. The following year he conceived the idea of the Diamond Creamery and Cheese Factory, and built it on the coast road at the mouth of Harmony valley, and on November 30, 1908, opened the place, carrying on a successful business until 1913. In 1909 he was the promoter of the Cayucos Creamery Company that erected the creamery at Cayucos, opened in 1910 with Mr. Salmina as manager. After six months it was sold to the Central Creameries Co., although he continued as manager for six months, at the end of which time he returned to his own creamery. In August, 1913, he organized the Harmony Valley Creamery Association, leased the buildings to that concern, and has managed it ever since.

On June 12, 1910, occurred the marriage of M. G. Salmina with Miss Ida M. Donati, who was born in Cayucos, June 4, 1892, and is now the mother of three children—Evelyn, Eleanor and Mirelle. Mr. Salmina became an American citizen on April 3, 1896, in San Luis Obispo. He is a Republican

in politics, and has been a member and clerk for the past five years of the Harmony school board. Mr. Salmina has always, in fact, taken an active part in public affairs, and in 1915 worked for the movement to have a state highway feeder run into this section of the county. He has made a success of his operations in business and is highly respected by all with whom he has had business or social relations.

**CHARLES FISCALINI.**—It is particularly to the Swiss people that San Luis Obispo County is indebted for the progress that has been made in the dairy business. They have developed practically worthless land into very valuable tracts, and by devoting their entire time to that business have brought wealth to the county and a competency to themselves. Today they stand among the most highly respected citizens of the state. Of their number is Charles Fiscalini, a resident of the Cambria section of San Luis Obispo County, who shows what perseverance and good management can accomplish. He was born in Borgnone, canton Ticino, Switzerland, January 28, 1867, a son of Battiste and Katherina (Rizzoli) Fiscalini, both natives and lifelong residents of that place. The father was a sawyer by trade before sawmills were operated, and when all the sawing of lumber was by hand. However, the greater part of his life was spent in farming and dairying in that country, as carried on in earlier years.

Charles Fiscalini attended the schools of his neighborhood until he was twelve years old, and then assisted his father on the home farm until he was nineteen. He had a brother, Mathew, who had located in California and who wrote back glowing accounts of the opportunities that awaited his countrymen here in the land of the setting sun. Charles decided to try his fortunes, and accordingly left home; and in January, 1887, he arrived in San Simeon, San Luis Obispo County. He worked in a dairy one year at Cambria, and before the year was up he had saved money to pay his parents the \$200 they had advanced him for expenses. In 1888, he went into the lumber camps of Mendocino county and for the following four months was employed in logging at Coffey's Cove by the L. E. White Lumber Co., when he returned to San Luis Obispo County and worked for various dairymen on Santa Rosa creek until 1892.

He had saved his money, and that year leased two thousand acres of the ranch on San Crapejo, milking about one hundred fifty cows and meeting with success. In 1899 he removed to Santa Rosa creek, where he had a two-hundred-acre ranch, bought sixty cows and continued dairying with good results. In 1902 he branched out into other lines, purchased the old Swiss hotel at Cambria and carried on the hotel business in connection with his dairy for one year, when he sold out. In the meantime, Mr. Fiscalini bought two hundred acres of land he had been leasing, and continued dairying and general farming. In 1915 he added by purchase another tract of one hundred sixty acres, to the development of which he has devoted his time, bringing it to a high state of cultivation. He is also raising alfalfa and beans, having about forty acres each year, which yield from three to four hundred sacks. He has fifty cows in his dairy, and uses a power separator of the De Laval make, selling his cream to the Cambria creamery.

On January 20, 1894, in San Francisco, Mr. Fiscalini was united in marriage with Mary Manfrina, a native of Switzerland, who came to this country alone. They have seven children—Fred, Irene, Katie, Annie, Olymphia,

Alexander and Charles—all natives of this county, who are being educated in the public schools. While giving his time to his affairs, Mr. Fiscalini has not neglected his duties as a citizen, but has always been alive to the needs of his community. For the past nine years he has been a school trustee of the Santa Rosa district and is clerk of the board. In politics he is a Republican, and he and his family are members of the Catholic Church in Cambria. Mr. and Mrs. Fiscalini have many friends throughout San Luis Obispo and environs, and they are widely esteemed for their sterling traits of character.

**BENJAMIN TOMASINI.**—The sons of Switzerland have added prestige to California as a dairy country, and among them Benjamin Tomasini deserves mention. He was born in Someo, canton Ticino, on January 1, 1879, a son of Battista Tomasini, also a native of the same canton and a dairy farmer. The latter first came to this country in 1870, and located in Marin county, and later he returned to Switzerland and brought his family to California.

Benjamin was educated in the common schools of his native canton and attended high school one year. He lived on the home farm and assisted with the work, until he came to the United States in February, 1902. While a resident of Switzerland, he served two years in the army and was advanced to sergeant of the 95th Battalion, 3rd Company, Infantry. After arriving in this country, he came direct to California, and in San Luis Obispo county found work for two years on the San Bernardo ranch. He then rented his father's ranch of six hundred fifty acres in the Chorro district, about eight miles west of San Luis Obispo. For a time he milked seventy cows, but decided to give his attention to raising cattle; and selling his dairy outfit, he embarked in the other line and has met with good results.

He was married in Someo, Switzerland, while back on a visit, on November 30, 1907, to Miss Romilda Righetti, born and reared in the canton of Ticino; and they have one child, Warren. Since Mr. Tomasini became a citizen of this country, in 1908, he has voted the Republican ticket. He has been a trustee of the Hope school district for four years, and part of the time was clerk of the board. His interests are centered in his work, and in the welfare of the county and its citizens, and he supports all movements to further those ends.

**ROBERT TONINI.**—A self-made man in every sense of the word, and a man who holds the respect of all with whom he has ever had business dealings, Robert Tonini was born in canton Ticino, in the town of Broglio, Switzerland, March 17, 1857. His education was obtained in the schools of his home place, and when he was fourteen he had to stop attending school and assist with the work about the home farm. One year later he left home and friends and started for California, where he had two brothers dairying in San Luis Obispo County.

He landed at Port Harford on December 22, 1873, and at once went to work for his brother, George Tonini, with whom he stayed one year. In 1874 he was employed by George Freeman on his dairy ranch and remained there two years. This gave him an insight into the methods employed in this country, and he thereafter worked for wages until 1878, when he leased acreage and began for himself on land owned by John J. Schiefferly near Pismo, having about sixty cows in his dairy herd. In 1880 he was out-

and then moved to Villa creek, where for five years he leased part of the A. Tognazzini ranch. In 1886 he rented seven hundred ninety-four acres of the Quintana ranch and sixty acres adjoining, and remained until 1903, meeting with success in dairying and stock-raising. He then sold out, and, unable to lease land at that time, worked for wages for three years.

In 1906 he found an opportunity to lease, and until 1915 ran a dairy. With the savings from these years of labor well invested, he retired, and is now living in Morro. On September 3, 1877, he became a citizen of the United States, at San Luis Obispo, and since then has been a factor in the forward movements that have brought wealth and prosperity to the county. He is serving as justice of the peace of Morro township, having been elected at the primary in 1914. He is a Republican in politics, and is a member of the U. A. O. D. lodge.

On September 20, 1880, he was married to Miss Annie Schiefferly, who was born near San Luis Obispo, May 22, 1862, and is a daughter of John J. Schiefferly, one of the first settlers in this county, who was a prominent rancher and served as county assessor. Mr. and Mrs. Tonini have had six children, Robert, Rosie, Benjamin, Fred, Howard and Jennie, all born and reared in San Luis Obispo County, and all educated in the public schools of their neighborhood. After having had many trials, and undergone many hardships, he is now able to live retired in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest, and among friends of many years' standing by whom he is highly respected.

**PAUL MADONNA.**—The late Paul Madonna was a native of Switzerland, having been born in the town of Intragna, canton Ticino, February 10, 1856, and died on his home farm, near Cayucos, February 14, 1914, aged fifty-eight years. Between these dates he accumulated a competency and made his influence felt in the country of his adoption. His education was obtained in the public schools of Intragna until his fifteenth year, when he went to Italy, being employed with his father, who was a contractor, until he was nineteen years of age. Then he started for the United States, hoping to realize in California his ambition to make a place for himself in the world.

The first two years he worked for wages, and then commenced on a small scale for himself, renting land at San Simeon; and for the following three years he carried on a dairy business. He then came to a ranch near Cambria and for the next three years continued business with success, when he sold out his interests and went back to Switzerland to visit his family and friends. While there, he was married on August 13, 1881, to Miss Barbara Brunoni, who was born on March 25, 1860, in the town of Intragna.

The young married couple came back to the United States, and in San Luis Obispo County they leased a ranch of eight hundred fifty acres, on part of which now stands the Diamond Creamery. They lived on this place for fifteen years and made a success of their dairy enterprise, milking one hundred twenty cows. Selling out, they moved to their present home place on Old creek, three miles from Cayucos, where Mr. Madonna had bought two hundred seventy-six acres, besides leasing one hundred seventy more. With eighty cows, he carried on a dairy and engaged in stock-raising, and also put thirty-five acres of the land into alfalfa, installing a pumping plant for irrigating the same. He was a stockholder in the Cambria and the San Luis Obispo creameries, and was counted one of the successful men

of the county at the time of his death. He became a citizen of this country, and thereafter took an active interest in its welfare, voting the Republican ticket in national elections. He served as a school trustee in Harmony Valley school district.

Seven children were born in the family: Clelia, Annie, Maggie, Paul, Esther, Mansuetto and Plinio. After the death of Mr. Madonna, his good helpmate took charge of the place, and she has since carried on the dairy and stock business with the assistance of her children, and has been meeting with success in her work, at the same time educating her children and enabling them to take their places in the world.

**JOSEPH BARLOGIO.**—A native of Switzerland, born in Lavertezzo, canton Ticino, on June 10, 1871, Joseph Barlogio has been a resident of California since he was eighteen years old. He attended the public schools in Lavertezzo until he was fourteen, and then helped with the farm work at home. Hoping to better his condition, he came alone to the United States and to Cambria, arriving on November 20, 1889; and soon afterwards found work. He worked for wages on various ranches for several years and learned the dairy business, meanwhile becoming familiar with the English language. In 1896, he leased the William Tell Hotel at Cambria, and conducted it for sixteen months, when he sold out at a good profit. His next venture was in the dairy business on Santa Rosa creek, where he leased nine hundred acres of land and some sixty cows, remaining there five years and making money. He moved to the Marks place in Green valley and, with his brother Martin as a partner, bought cows and carried on the dairy business in that locality until 1912, when they leased the Banning place of fifteen hundred acres. They now have a dairy of two hundred sixty cows.

When it is taken into consideration that Mr. Barlogio landed in California with thirty dollars in his pockets, and saved six hundred up to the time he embarked in business for himself, and that he now carries on an extensive enterprise, besides being half owner with his brother, Martin Barlogio, in eleven hundred acres of land in Green valley, ten miles from Cambria, stocked with one hundred seventy-five cattle, it will be seen what hard work and good management will accomplish in this land of great opportunity. He became a citizen of the United States August 27, 1901, and since then has voted the Republican ticket, and for four years served as a trustee of the Olmstead school district in Green valley.

At San Luis Obispo, on September 27, 1896, Mr. Barlogio married Miss Rosie Guirra, who was born in Palanjnadra, Switzerland, in the canton of Ticino, and they have had six children: Charles, Carrie, Florence, Herman, Irene and Lillian. All are being educated in the public schools of this county, in which Mr. Barlogio takes an especial interest. Mrs. Barlogio came to California with her mother when she was twelve years of age, joining the father, who had settled in Cambria some years before.

**FRANK E. TOMASINI.**—As might be expected of one who has spent his entire life in San Luis Obispo County, Frank Tomasini is a patriotic son of the state and has made a success of his work thus far in the dairy and stock business. He was born in Cambria, March 18, 1880, a son of Alesandro Tomasini. Alesandro Tomasini was born in Switzerland, October 14, 1850, and lived there until he was sixteen, and in 1866 left for America. Many of his countrymen had come to California, and sent back such glowing accounts

that he was fired with ambition to try his fortunes in the golden West. He settled in Marin county and for nine years worked on dairy ranches. In 1875 he arrived in this county, and for six years thereafter engaged in dairying for himself near Cambria. Later he bought three hundred sixty-seven acres adjoining Cayucos, improved it and made a model dairy ranch, having from fifty to seventy-five cows, and succeeded in his labors. In 1882 he purchased about one hundred ten acres adjoining, and had four hundred eighty-six acres in one body. In 1889 he took his family back to his old home to educate his children in his mother tongue, remaining for five years. He became a citizen of the United States in 1871, and served as a trustee of the Cayucos school district for several years. He was killed by a bull, April 21, 1900. Alesandro Tomasini was married in Cambria, December 16, 1876, to Dominica Parinoni, and they became parents of two sons and two daughters. The two boys and one daughter are living, and the mother, with her son Joseph and daughter Celia, resides in San Jose.

Frank E. Tomasini, one of the sons, attended the public schools of Cayucos for a time, and in 1889 went back to his father's old home in Someo, Switzerland, and there attended school for a time. In 1894 he returned to California, and the following two years attended school; then he went into his father's service, and worked for him until the time of his death, in 1900. His mother then took charge of the ranch, and he worked for her one year. He then leased it on shares, and bought stock and implements, and has since been dairying and farming with success.

At Guadalupe, on May 11, 1903, occurred the marriage of Frank E. Tomasini with Miss Eliza S. Tognazzini, a native of Someo, of canton Ticino, where she was born on May 11, 1885. She came to California with her parents, Peter A. and Madalena (Morganti) Tognazzini. Both of her parents were born in Someo, and are engaged in farming in this county.

Mr. and Mrs. Tomasini have two children, Alex and Isabelle. Mr. Tomasini is following in his father's footsteps and is a supporter of all public movements that are for the good of the people.

**LORENZO ALBERTI.**—It is to the Swiss that California has opened up an industry to which they are adapted by inheritance and early training, and from which many have reaped considerable wealth. Lorenzo Alberti is no exception, for he has made his own way in the world from boyhood, and is respected by all who know him. He was born in Robasacco, canton Ticino, Switzerland, February 16, 1862, and attended the public schools until his fourteenth year, after which, for the next five years, he assisted with the care of the home farm, where his father was in the dairy business and raised cows, sheep and goats. He was satisfied that the State of California, of which he had heard so much, held better advantages for him; and accordingly in 1882 he came to San Francisco and sought employment. He had but little money, and therefore any honest work that was offered he gladly accepted. He went to Marin county and worked for two seasons, and in the latter part of 1883 he was employed by a laundry company in San Francisco, working there about nine months. From that city he came to San Luis Obispo County in 1884 and found work in a dairy. He learned the ways of the country and to speak some English, and was soon employed by John Hollister for two years on his ranch on Chorro creek. In 1886 he started for himself and bought some cows and leased land near Guadalupe,

and was successfully engaged in dairying for the following fifteen years. He sold out in 1902, at a good profit, and bought his present home place of six hundred twenty-four acres of land in Los Osos valley, two and one-half miles from San Luis Obispo. He added to his holdings in 1904 by purchasing three hundred twenty acres more, and in 1916 added ninety-two acres. He now runs a dairy of one hundred cows and is meeting with success. Many changes have taken place since Mr. Alberti came to this county, and the dairy business has been revolutionized. When he came to this place, the milk was panned and skimmed by hand as well as churned by hand. Now he has a separator operated by water power, which is also used for cutting up feed; and instead of having to haul cream to the creamery, it is called for at the ranch-house door.

Mr. Alberti married Miss Maria Delte, a native of canton Ticino, in 1890, and they have seven children: Sylvia J., Clelia G., Americo L., Plinio J., Lillie U., Este L. and Henry O. Mr. Alberti is interested in the cause of education and has served as a trustee of the Stowe district for a number of years, and was clerk of the board for a time. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Catholic Church, and is a public-spirited citizen who has the respect of a host of friends.

In 1907, Mr. Alberti made a trip back to Switzerland to see his parents, Leonardo and Antonia (Richina) Alberti. He had made a promise to his mother when leaving home that he would be back to visit the family in five or six years, but once in California, events arose that made it impossible to keep that promise; he got into business, and necessarily in debt, and it took him twenty-six years before he could get back home. He had a delightful trip, but was glad to get back to his California home and friends. His father died in 1913 at the age of seventy-nine. His mother, though in poor health, is still living, aged seventy-eight years. In 1910 Mrs. Alberti and her daughter Lillie took a trip back to her old home, as it was not possible for her to accompany her husband when he went, for the children were not old enough to be left alone, and the large interests of Mr. Alberti had to have a competent overseer; so she assumed charge and succeeded very well.

**JOHN J. FRATIS.**—Many Portuguese transplanted from the Kingdom of Portugal to the hospitable shores of the United States have found here a haven wherein they have won independence, and fortunes gained solely by their own efforts; for nearly all of those who have been successful in this free country landed here with neither money nor knowledge of the English language. Many of them have taken an active part in the upbuilding of their adopted land, and of this number no resident of San Luis Obispo County is deserving of more credit than John J. Fratis. He was born in Flores, on Santa Cruz Island, in the Azores, December 8, 1867, and when he was eighteen years old came direct to this county, landing here, in 1885, with just eight dollars in his pocket; since which time, by his own unaided efforts, he has succeeded in every undertaking.

For ten years he worked for wages on the Gilbert ranch at Morro; and then he rented thirty-five acres there and for two years raised beans. He next went to Arroyo Grande valley and leased a hundred and thirty acres of the Biddle ranch, farmed there eight years, and then added one hundred sixty-five acres, devoting the tract to beans, barley, alfalfa, hogs, and a dairy.



During the ensuing seven years, he saved enough to buy his present ranch in Kern county, where he and his partner, P. J. Antoni, have sixty acres in alfalfa, while the rest of the eighty is devoted to general farming. The dairy there consists of sixty cows and is conducted with profit. He also owns a small ranch near Morro. Mr. Fratis was made a citizen in 1907, is a member of the Catholic Church, and belongs to the I. D. E. S. and the U. P. E. C. societies.

He married Rosa D. Diess, a native of Morro and daughter of Frank Diess, a pioneer of the coast section of this county. They have three children: Josephine, Mary and Juzunio. Interested in education, Mr. Fratis is giving his children every advantage obtainable in the public schools, and does his part to maintain a high standard of education in the community.

**ANTONIO STORNETTA.**—The sons of Switzerland who have made good in California are many, and among them Antonio Stornetta holds a prominent place. He was born at Santantonino, canton Ticino, September 6, 1873, attended the public schools of his native canton until he was fifteen years of age and then, alone, started for the Golden State to cast in his fortunes with the western world. He was unfamiliar with English and had but little money when he arrived in San Luis Obispo County, but he was ready and willing to busy himself at any employment that a boy could find.

He worked for Dalamaria in a dairy at Cayucos for two years, and while there learned considerable about the ways of this country. He worked for others for a while, and then found a good opening near Santa Maria, in Santa Barbara county, and the following fifteen years were spent in that locality.

He saved his money, and about 1907 was able to finance a ranching proposition for himself. He leased the Santa Fe dairy on the Pismo road, bought twenty-five cows and made money during the ten years that he carried on the dairy there, selling milk to the retail trade in San Luis Obispo and building up a paying business. His present ranch is on the Edna road, where he has five hundred acres, leased from John Carroll, and milks forty cows and farms part of the land to beans and barley.

He became a citizen of the United States in 1889. He is a Republican in politics and a member of the Catholic Church. He married Aralia Donetti, a native of Switzerland, and they have two sons, Silvia and Louis, who are operating in partnership in the dairy business, leasing land for that purpose, and meeting with success. Mr. Stornetta is a self-made man and commands the respect of his associates, both in business and socially.

**LAURICE FILIPPONI.**—A native son of San Luis Obispo County, whose father was a pioneer of 1869, Laurice Filippini was born in Morro, March 3, 1889, a son of Dennis Filippini, of canton Ticino, Switzerland, who came to America in 1869, with California as his objective point. Dennis Filippini worked on a dairy in Marin county until 1873, when he settled in San Luis Obispo County. He located on his ranch in 1889, carried on a successful dairy business for many years, and is now living retired from active work and in the enjoyment of his competency. He is a Mason, an active Republican in politics, and for many years was a member of the Republican County Central Committee.

Laurice Filippini was educated in the public schools of this county and reared on his father's farm, and early learned the details of successful

farming. He farmed the home ranch on shares for a time, and in 1913 purchased all the live stock and farming implements from his father and leased the home place for five years. Now he is busily engaged in dairying, having one hundred head of cows of the Durham and Holstein breeds. He has one hundred eighty-five acres in beans and barley, while the balance of the nine hundred sixty-three acres of the ranch is given over to grazing.

Mr. Filipponi has met with exceptional success in his undertaking, and is making a name for himself in the county where he has lived all his life. He is the only son in a family of nine children, and has enjoyed every advantage to gain a thorough knowledge of the various branches of agriculture. By all who know him a bright future is predicted as his lot, for he is a progressive and worthy citizen.

He was married September 17, 1913, to Miss Lillie Bassi, a native of San Luis Obispo county, who was born near Morro, and is a daughter of A. Bassi of Cambria.

**BERNARDO A. MASTAGNI.** One of the enterprising and well-known ranchers of the vicinity of Paso Robles is Bernardo A. Mastagni, who was born near Bressia, in the province of Lombardi, Italy, August 25, 1871. His father was Santa Mastagni, a well-to-do farmer and stockraiser of his native country, who also gave considerable time and attention to raising grapes, olives and other fruits, as well as to the culture of the silkworm. For spinning the cocoons into thread, he built a factory on his farm. His wife was Eliza Catherina Zuckelli. They both passed away in their native province.

The fifth of seven children in the family, Bernardo Mastagni was reared on the home place and there attended the local schools. When he was seventeen, he decided to try his luck in a new country, where there would be better opportunities for advancement than he could find at home; and the spring of 1889 saw him in California. He found work in Santa Barbara county for a time, and then came to San Luis Obispo County and worked on a dairy ranch. This employment gave him some idea of the ways of ranching and stockraising in this country, and he began on his own account; and ever since he has been successfully engaged in raising stock and doing a general farming.

He was united in marriage with Miss Attilia Bassi, in Paso Robles, on August 2, 1896. She was born in the canton of Ticino, Switzerland, a daughter of Don Caesar and Candida (Padewani) Bassi. Her father was a teacher until his death, and her mother now resides in San Luis Obispo County. Mrs. Mastagni came to San Simeon, California, in October, 1893, and here in this county her eight children have been born. In politics Mr. Mastagni indorses the principles of the Republican party.

**CHARLES RONCONI, JR.**—A young man who, by his own energy and business ability, has risen to a prominent place and is highly esteemed as the efficient chief of the Paso Robles Fire Department, is Charles Ronconi, Jr., who was appointed in January, 1917, having worked his way through every position in the department to his present responsible place. He is intensely interested in the growth of Paso Robles, having lived here since he was a lad of twelve years, in 1895, when he left his native country of Italy. He was born January 17, 1882, in Sastagodano, Genoa, Italy, into the family of Carlo and Francisca (Aciclade) Ronconi, natives of that country, where the father was a farmer.

The elder Ronconi came to the United States in 1889 and worked at gardening in San Juan and in Soquel, Santa Cruz county; and in 1891 he moved to San Luis Obispo County and worked two years in San Luis Obispo. He next went to the Ascencion ranch near Templeton and worked until 1895, when he had saved enough to buy some land of his own; and in 1896 he bought his present place in Paso Robles and moved onto it. He began improving it and raising vegetables, shipping to adjoining towns, and from the start met with success. Into the family of Mr. and Mrs. Ronconi, Sr., nine children have been born.

Charles Ronconi, Jr., was the fourth child in his father's family and was reared in Italy until 1895, attending the public school there. After coming to this country, he continued his studies in the schools of Paso Robles. When nineteen, he started out on a vegetable wagon and has continued since to build up a large trade throughout Paso Robles, where he is well known for his honesty and for the good quality of the garden produce he grows on his well-cultivated land.

On their tract of land they have installed a fine pumping plant with a capacity of four hundred fifty gallons per minute, and can irrigate their entire thirty acres. They have also drilled and developed a flowing well, and have a reservoir with a capacity of fifty thousand gallons. They supply the stores with green vegetables and run a team to Templeton, as well as in Paso Robles.

Charles Ronconi, Jr., was married in San Miguel to Miss Margaret O'Kane, a native of Ireland, and they have one child, Mary. With his wife, who is a very energetic business woman, he is proprietor of the Star Rooming House on Park street, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets. In 1903 he joined the volunteer fire department in Paso Robles and has been a member ever since. He was foreman of Hose Cart No. 2, and later first assistant chief engineer of the department. In January, 1917, he was elected chief of the department, a position he now holds. He is a Republican and a very public-spirited man, and is well liked and highly esteemed by all with whom he is acquainted.

**CHARLES OLGATI.**—The owner and proprietor of one of the modern butcher shops in San Luis Obispo, and a staunch supporter and advocate of all progressive movements for the upbuilding of the county, Charles Olgati has won for himself a name and place in the business world by his own efforts. He was born in Milan, Italy, October 28, 1869, and was there educated in the public schools. At an early age he learned the trade of butcher, after which he traveled and worked in various parts of Italy and Switzerland, acquiring new ideas that made him more proficient in his calling; and for a time he conducted a shop of his own at Pimonte, Italy.

In 1900 he arrived in America and found employment at his trade in the Hotel Criterion at Forty-first street and Broadway, New York. Later he went to Chicago and was engaged as sausage-maker with Armour & Co.; and for a short time, also, he was employed by the Underwood Packing Co. He had heard of the opportunities offered young men in California, and in 1903 turned his steps towards the Coast country. The first six months were passed in Martinez, Contra Costa county. Desiring to investigate various localities preparatory to embarking in business for himself, he went to Keswick, Shasta county, and worked in the slaughter-house of the Mountain

Copper Co.; and the following year, 1904, he came to San Luis Obispo County and for two years was employed by C. T. Greenfield in the old Pacific Market.

Having spent several profitable years in this state, he took a vacation and journeyed to his old home in Milan, where he remained six months. Then he returned to San Luis Obispo and formed a partnership with C. H. Hansen; and for eight years they ran the Fulton Market on Chorro street. The partnership was then dissolved and, in 1914, Mr. Olgiati opened his present modern establishment on Monterey street, fitting it up with all modern conveniences and new fixtures, until now he has the best-equipped shop in the county, and has built up an extensive trade in both city and environs.

Besides this store he owns two hundred fifty acres of land and a slaughterhouse on Los Osos road, where he keeps and fattens from one hundred fifty to two hundred head of cattle, and from six hundred to 1,000 hogs. He also has a fine cold-storage plant, where his meat is kept in excellent condition; and in 1916 alone, more than 10,000 head of live stock were sold by him through his wholesale and retail trade. He has a secret feed that he gives his stock, which are all stall-fed, and uses about seventy carloads of feed annually.

Mr. Olgiati has kept abreast of the times; and when devices have been introduced for more sanitary methods of handling meat or stock, he has installed them in his own departments of business. He employs seven men and two automobiles, and has prospered financially.

In 1906, Mr. Olgiati became a citizen of the United States. Some years ago he was united in marriage with Clara Wisberg, who was born, one of triplets, in San Luis Obispo County. Mr. and Mrs. Olgiati have two children, Frank J. and John L., to brighten their comfortable home, which they own and occupy at 497 Islay street, where they are surrounded by the comforts made possible by his business success.

**JOHN MARZORINI.**—Perhaps there is no more prominent citizen in this section of San Luis Obispo County or one more successful than the resident owner of the Paso Robles Cheese Factory, John Marzorini, who was born in the town of Locarno, canton Ticino, Switzerland, on October 1, 1873, a son of Matio and Theresa (Mocettini) Marzorini, both living in the land of their birth at the ages of seventy-nine and seventy-seven years, respectively, content to remain on their dairy farm and enjoy the evening of life. They had six children, four of whom are in California; and of these John is the third in the order of birth.

Brought up on the dairy farm in Switzerland and sent to the public schools until he was sixteen, John Marzorini then came to the United States and California, settling in Soledad, Monterey county, where he went to work on a ranch for twenty-five dollars a month, and continued at that one place for seven years with but one week's vacation. On March 17, 1898, he started for the Klondike, and at Chilcoot Pass fortunately was just one mile behind the great snow-slide, and so helped to dig out those who had been caught in the disaster. He also helped build boats at Lake Linderman and arrived at Dawson on June 19, 1898, where he located three claims, which later proved to be worthless. He was offered fifteen thousand dollars for one of them before he had prospected it, but refused the offer.

After a year spent in mining, for which he was paid one dollar per hour, he continued two more years at eighty cents per hour. In January of the

winter of 1902, while he was making a trip from Dominion Creek to Dawson on foot, a distance of sixty miles, he nearly froze to death before he reached a certain roadhouse; and had it been one mile further on, he would have perished. He was taken in and was under the care of a doctor, who lanced his fingers; and by careful attention, his arms were saved from amputation, which was at first thought necessary to save his life. Being in the very best of health and physical condition, Mr. Marzorini recovered and was back at work in two months at his job of miner. In September, 1902, having been in the Klondike four years and some months, he started on the homeward journey and arrived in Monterey county. Before resuming work, however, he decided that he would go back to his home land and visit his parents; and once in Switzerland again, he remained fourteen months before returning to California.

While in Locarno he was married, in 1903, to Miss Juditha Marzorini, a native of that city; and the following year, 1904, they came to the United States and to California, the scene of Mr. Marzorini's first experiences in this country. Here he worked for seven months in a dairy, and then went to another and worked three years at Soledad. These years had enabled him to save money and to start for himself; and he now engaged in dairying with one hundred twenty cows and manufactured cheese. He was successful, clearing eight thousand dollars in three years. With this money, he came to San Luis Obispo County, November 17, 1909, bought a tract of eleven hundred acres in partnership with M. C. Clark of Soledad, and began raising grain and hay and dairying.

The land had to be leveled and checked, buildings put up, wells sunk and pumping plant installed, all of which has been done by the enterprising owner. Now he has one hundred forty acres in alfalfa, seven wells with pumping plant installed with a lift of seventeen feet, and all run by electric power with a capacity of 1800 gallons a minute. The farm plant includes a modern dairy house of concrete, cow barns to hold sixty head of cows, sheds, horse-barns and the residence and bunkhouses for the men, all electric lighted. He milks about one hundred head of cows, mostly Frisian-Holsteins, and some of them full-blooded registered stock, and he has three registered bulls at the head of his herd. Besides his dairy stock, he also has about one hundred fifty stock cattle and thirty head of horses. Great care has been taken from the sanitary standpoint, and in his cheese factory he puts out from eight to ten cheeses per day averaging twenty-two pounds, which are shipped to San Francisco.

Mr. and Mrs. Marzorini are the parents of four children—Clara, Roy, Americo, Annie, all born and reared in California. Mr. Marzorini is a Republican and a member of the Foresters. He is an active, energetic, live business man, successful through his own efforts, hospitable and intelligent, and takes a live interest in all pertaining to the upbuilding of the county, and particularly in dairy and stock interests, which are of such vital importance to the state's prosperity.

**JAMES POLETTI.**—For men of education the state of California has always held great opportunities, as has been demonstrated in the life of James Poletti. He was born in Pallagneta, canton Ticino, Switzerland, June 22, 1868, a son of Giuseppe and Maria (Bettini) Poletti, both natives of that place. The father was a man of refinement and education, and taught school

in his native country for more than fifty years. He was the oldest teacher in point of service in his section of the country. He came to California in 1891, and spent the better part of that year in San Luis Obispo County, but he returned to his home and resumed his duties as a teacher.

James Poletti was educated in the public schools of his native canton and went to high school five years, and then, to fit himself for teaching, took a two years' course in a normal school. He taught in the schools of his locality for three years, and in 1891 came to California with his wife and mother, a brother and two sisters. Mr. Poletti located in San Luis Obispo County. The first three years here, he worked for wages on the dairy ranch of Mr. Beebee in Los Osos valley, and then moved to Cambria and spent two years as a wage-earner.

With experience gained and money saved, he embarked in the dairy business for himself with a partner, leasing four hundred acres in Green valley. His next move was to Chorro, where he leased two ranches aggregating four hundred acres, and there he followed dairying for six years, meeting with much success. In 1910 he moved to his present place of four hundred acres, near the tank farm, which he leases, and now he is milking fifty cows and raising beans.

Mr. Poletti was married in his home town on February 9, 1891, to Miss Annie A. Porta, a native of canton Ticino, who was born October 3, 1869. They have four children: Achille, Mrs. Corina M. Stornetta, Mrs. Erminia G. Christensen, and Olimpia. Mr. Poletti is a public-spirited citizen and gives his support to all enterprises that will advance the interest of the county and promote the welfare of its citizens. He has a host of friends who admire him for his manliness and integrity.

**ALEX BIASOTTI.**—A native of the town of Rio, Genoa, Italy, born October 27, 1866, Alex Biasotti is the son of Dominico and Angela Maria (Ferari) Biasotti, farming folks in Rio, Italy. The mother died when Alex was a lad of four years, and the father passed away in 1893. Of their thirteen children, four of whom are living, Alex was the only one to come to America. He was brought up on the farm in Italy, and educated in the public schools; and having read of the opportunities in California for young men who were willing to work, he determined to try his fortune on the Pacific coast.

On June 15, 1886, he arrived in Santa Cruz, and went to work the next day as a vegetable gardener, continuing there for eighteen months; then he came to San Luis Obispo and, with three partners, leased the Estrada gardens, two miles north of town, and ran vegetable gardens there for five years. He then came to the Ascencion ranch, at Atascadero, and leased and operated it for three years.

In 1896 he came to Paso Robles, bought five acres of land, and engaged in raising vegetables, running a vegetable wagon. Since then he has bought adjoining property and now owns thirty acres of fine bottom land, all devoted to gardens and alfalfa. There is a flowing artesian well that supplies an abundance of water for irrigation, and Mr. Biasotti constructed a reservoir for storing the water. The alfalfa is cut five times a year and vegetables of fine quality are raised on the place, which are retailed in Paso Robles.

Mr. Biasotti was united in marriage in San Luis Obispo, in May, 1894, with Amelia Dellippi, who was born in Buenos Ayres, South America, 1860.

daughter of John B. and Catherine Bertoni Defilippi, both natives of Italy, who were engaged in business in Buenos Ayres for seventeen years, after which they returned to Italy, where the mother died and the father is still living. Mrs. Biasotti came to California in 1893, and they are the parents of thirteen children, nine of whom are living: Alex, Guadalupe (Mrs. Minini, of Paso Robles), Mary, David, Palmyra, Jennie, John, Benjamin, and Virginia—all under the parental roof except Mrs. Minini. Mr. Biasotti is an industrious, ambitious citizen, and his industry and ambition have been rewarded.

**JOHN S. GULARTE.**—A successful dairyman and a self-made man, John S. Gularte started in as a poor young man, and by hard work and personal application to his affairs he has gradually risen to a place of importance in the county of his adoption. He was born in the Azores islands in 1862, educated in the public schools of his native country, and at the age of nineteen, in 1881, came to the United States and worked for wages, as a farm hand, near New Bedford, Mass.

In 1884, Mr. Gularte came to California and continued as a farm laborer on ranches in the vicinity of Cayucos and San Luis Obispo, and by saving his money he was soon enabled to embark in farming for himself. He worked eighteen hundred acres on shares, and managed a large dairy of one hundred fifty cows. Meeting with success in this venture, he next ran a dairy at Chorro for one year, and still later made his home in Morro for a like period.

In 1905 he settled in Arroyo Grande and carried on his operations from town. He now lives in the Tar Springs district, leases one thousand acres of the Steele ranch and three thousand acres of the Biddle ranch, and has a dairy of one hundred cows, and engages in the cattle business with good results. Part of the leased land Mr. Gularte sub-leases to tenants, who farm on shares; and he finds this a very profitable way to carry on large tracts of land.

In Madera county, on February 25, 1895, Mr. Gularte was united in marriage with Isabel R. Alves, also a native of the Azores, and they have four children—Mary, Nora, Violet and Manuel. Mr. Gularte is a member of the I. D. E. S. and the U. P. E. C. lodges, and takes an active part in their workings. He is a self-made man, and one who holds the respect of his neighbors and friends.

**GEROME ROTTA.**—A handy and wide-awake young foreigner who is meeting with success, partly because of his studious observation of American methods coupled with his application of a valuable knowledge brought from the Old World, is Gerome Rotta, who was born at Godo, Bellanzona, canton Ticino, Switzerland, on November 16, 1885, the eldest of three children of Giacomo and Adelaida Rotta. His parents were also natives of Ticino, where the father has been and is still engaged in dairying and farming, the mother being deceased. Gerome received a good education at the public schools, and assisted his father on the farm until 1905, when he emigrated to San Francisco, and soon found employment in a dairy at Vallejo.

He then worked for a year in another dairy in Marin county, after which he joined his brother, Clemente, at Saint Helena, Napa county, where together they conducted the French Bakery. After three years they sold out, and Gerome bought his present place of a hundred twenty acres nine miles southwest of Paso Robles, where he was soon farming and raising stock.

When he took hold of the land it was covered with brush and trees, but by the hardest kind of labor he has brought forty-five acres under cultivation, and from the fruits of this little farm he derives a profitable income which is supplemented through teaming and hauling.

In the city of Napa on August 9, 1909, young Mr. Rotta was married to Miss Anitta Carminetti, who was born at Godo, came to California in 1907, and is the daughter of Serephino and Ursula Pissinti. Her father was a business man in Godo and died in 1915. The mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Rotta are the parents of four children—James, Severino, Adelaida and Marie—who will some day doubtless inherit, through their parents' industry and ability, a nice little homestead.

**MANUEL TRIGUEIRO.**—The obliging and efficient postmaster at San Miguel is a native of California, born in Jolon, Monterey county, October 17, 1879. His father, Frank J. Trigueiro, was born in the Azores. He was a sailor for many years and came around the Horn to San Francisco, from which city he went to the redwoods in Sonoma county, where he worked until he began farming in the Jolon country. Here he took up a homestead of one hundred sixty acres, improved it and farmed successfully until, being driven off because it was on one of the grants, he lost all his improvements and labor. He then rented and farmed, and in 1884 came to this county and homesteaded one hundred sixty acres in Sec. 19, Twp. 25, range 10 east, twelve miles northeast of San Miguel, where he made improvements and bought adjoining land, and now has a large ranch and is farming and raising stock. He married Miss Mary Bidel, born in Mexico, who has had twelve children. Nine of their offspring are now living and Manuel is the second born.

Manuel Trigueiro was thus raised in San Luis Obispo County and went to school at Bee Rock, living and working at home until 1904, when he entered the service of the sugar factory at Betteravia. While there, however, he met with an accident that crippled him, his foot being caught in an elevator. After his recovery, he took a correspondence course in the Scranton school and, finishing in 1906, opened a confectionery store and ice cream parlor, and also had the telephone exchange. These he continued until 1914, when, on March 29, he received the appointment of postmaster at San Miguel, taking the office after selling his store on April 11. The office work has grown since his incumbency, and now there are three star routes from the San Miguel office. He is a supporter of Democratic principles and a public-spirited citizen of San Miguel.

**A. BONDIETTI.**—On January 21, 1851, there was born in Switzerland, in the canton of Ticino, the well known and highly respected citizen of the Santa Maria valley, A. Bondiotti. He went to school until he was about fourteen and then learned the trade of stone mason, which he followed until coming to the United States in 1879, when he was twenty-eight years old. As a boy, he had worked at the dairy business for his father and mother, who were farmers in their native canton, and who died when past seventy years of age.

On arriving in this country, Mr. Bondiotti came direct to the Santa Maria valley, abandoned his trade and took up dairying. He worked for wages as a milker and general farm hand on ranches in the vicinity of Guadalupe, and when he had saved enough money, he went into business for himself. Leasing three hundred acres of land in San Luis Obispo County, he



stocked it with fifty head of dairy cows and began to build up a prosperous dairy. As he prospered, he bought the land he occupied, added needed improvements and made of it a very productive ranch, raising beans and grain in connection with his dairy.

In 1882, Mr. Bondietti was united in marriage with Dora La Franchi, a native of Switzerland, and they have three daughters, all of whom are married: Adeline, Mrs. Virgil Larnotti, who has four children; Mrs. Lillie Larnotti, who has three children; and Mrs. Elvezia Rhigetti, who has four children. In 1906, Mr. Bondietti retired from active ranch work, having accumulated sufficient to permit him to enjoy the comforts of life; and the ranch is being conducted by his sons-in-law, who are successfully carrying out the plans made by Mr. Bondietti.

A Republican, active in party work, Mr. Bondietti is a firm believer in a high standard of education, and has served for years on the school board of his district. He is a member of Guadalupe Lodge, No. 224, I. O. O. F., and has held offices in the lodge. He is interested in real estate in Guadalupe, and has erected several houses on lots owned by him. He is public-spirited, and successful, a valued citizen of the county, who has made his own way to his present position in the community, where he is highly respected.

**MANUEL M. MARTINEZ.**—If California owes a particular debt to any class of its citizens, it is to those who, residing beyond the limits and conveniences of the town, yet contribute their full share to the progress of the State. Such a worthy citizen is Manuel M. Martinez, the well-known rancher, and at present the clerk of the Bonita school district. His father, now deceased, was A. C. Martinez, a native of the Azores, who became a rich rancher in the Santa Maria valley, and was the owner of two ranches at Oso Flaco and two other ranches at Edna, six miles from San Luis Obispo. A sister, Mary R., is Mrs. M. D. Martin, a resident of Santa Maria; a brother, of the same place, is A. Martinez, in charge of one of the Martinez ranches at Oso Flaco; while another brother is J. C. Martinez, unmarried and living with his mother at Santa Maria.

Manuel attended the public schools and graduated as a bookkeeper from the San Luis Obispo College, after which he worked for several companies until his impaired health compelled him to quit office work. He then ran one of the Martinez ranches at Edna for six years, and of late has been managing one hundred seven acres of the Red Tank Farm, three miles west of Santa Maria. Enjoying such prosperity, he married a native daughter, Miss Julia L. Heyd, now the mother of two children, Arthur L. and Julia M. Martinez. A live citizen and a good neighbor, Mr. Martinez is popular as the executive secretary of the I. D. E. S., Council 105.

**JOE J. SOUZA.**—A product of the great public school system of California, Joe J. Souza, by his services as trustee of the Bonita school district, is helping to maintain for others the educational advantages he himself enjoyed. Mr. Souza is a well-known rancher, who rents a hundred fifty acres of his father's ranch, about four miles west of Santa Maria. Born in the Oso Flaco, in San Luis Obispo County, March 12, 1881, he is the son of Manuel J. Souza, a sketch of whose active and useful life appears elsewhere in our volume. His mother, who is still living, and who came to Guadalupe when she was but a young lady, was Miss Mary Lawrence Bello, a native of the Azores. Mr. Souza finished the grammar school course provided by his

neighborhood, and being the eldest son began to drive a team when only ten years of age.

At general farm work he continued on his father's ranch until the age of twenty-seven, when he married Miss Annie Bello, a daughter of Victor J. Bello of Pismo. Two children, Gladys and Albert, were born to the happy couple, who are among the faithful of the Catholic Church at Santa Maria.

A Republican in politics, an active member of the U. P. E. C., and the efficient vice-president of the I. D. E. S., Mr. Souza still finds time, as he has for the past two years, to attend to the duties of a school trustee, as a member of the board of trustees of the Bonita district, of which A. V. Bras is president and M. Martinez is secretary. Under their conscientious supervision the Bonita school is justly regarded as one of the best elementary institutions in the Santa Maria Valley.

**ANTONIO P. SILVEIRA.**—A representative citizen and a well-to-do rancher residing in the vicinity of Guadalupe in the Santa Maria valley, Antonio P. Silveira was born on January 15, 1863, in the Azores, in one of the most beautiful parts of the Portuguese dependency. His father was Anton P. Silveira, who died in May, 1916, aged ninety years; his mother, before her marriage to Mr. Silveira, was Annie Vieira, and she passed away in 1900. Neither of them ever left the Azores, but some of their children have found their way to America. Among the brothers and sisters of Mr. Silveira are: Mary, unmarried and living in the Azores; Anna, widow of Joe Mello, and Joe, both living in Providence, R. I.; Manuel, who died at the age of twenty-one; Catherina, married and living in Oakland; Mary Ann, wife of Joe Bento of Garey; Mary Josephine, Mrs. Anton J. Bello, of the Oso Flaco; Isabel, who died at the age of twenty; John, who died in Reno, Nev., leaving one child; Frank, a resident of Idaho; and Mary Rosalie, of Oakland.

Antonio P. Silveira attended school for a short time in his native land, and in 1880, at the age of seventeen, came to California, where he had an uncle living at Salinas, Monterey county. With him he worked for wages for three years, doing general farm work and learning farming details as carried on in this state. In 1883 he came to the Santa Maria valley and leased land; and for six years he farmed for himself. It was about this time that young Silveira thought that he was able to support a wife; and on November 25, 1889, he was united in marriage, in San Francisco, with Miss Francesca Medeiros, then of Petaluma, but a native of the Azores. Her parents were Joaquin J. and Leo Poldina (Vieira) Medeiros, both of the Azores, from which place her father came to California, later sending for his wife and children, who joined him in Petaluma in 1884. Mrs. Silveira then being fifteen years of age. Her three sisters are: Mary A., widow of Joe Gaspar, residing in Petaluma; Annie, wife of Caton Foeha, also living near that city; and Marian, deceased wife of Anton Silveira, Jr. Her parents are both deceased.

After their marriage, the young people came down to this valley and Mr. Silveira took up ranching and followed it with splendid success, raising beans and grain. So successful has he been that in 1901 he was able to purchase his present ranch of one hundred eighty-three and one-half acres, situated about six and one-half miles west of Santa Maria, upon which he has made all the improvements. Some few years ago they suffered a loss of about \$10,000 when their fine home and its contents were destroyed by

fire; but with characteristic energy Mr. Silveira at once rebuilt his modern home on the bungalow style of architecture. In 1916 he harvested nineteen hundred sacks of beans, which brought him a good sum. Wherever you may travel in California you will not find a superior among sturdy farmer folk to A. P. Silveira. He is a member of the Santa Maria Lodge, I. D. E. S., and the Guadalupe Lodge of I. O. O. F., and Mrs. Silveira is a welcome member of the S. P. R. S. I.

To this worthy couple thirteen children have been born, three of them dying in infancy, while the remainder have been reared according to the tenets of the Catholic Church. They are: Mary Lucile, wife of Antonio Gomes, living at Orcutt, where he is employed by the Pinal-Dome Oil Co.; Manuel, who married Carrie Bras and lives in Betteravia; Anton, married to Mary Nunes and living in this valley, the father of one son, Edward; Joaquin, a young surveyor of promise living at home; Al, an engineer and machinist; Frances, attending the Santa Maria high school; Frank and Deolinda, attending the grammar school; and David and Louis, also in the grammar schools. All the children are being given the best schooling obtainable in the public schools to fit them for their places in life. Both Mr. and Mrs. Silveira are estimable people, and have won their own way to places of esteem in the community where they have lived so many years.

In the spring of 1915, Mr. Silveira took a vacation of nearly four months, and went back to see his aged father in the Azores. He sailed from Boston on the White Star steamer "Canopio," and while in mid-ocean he learned by wireless of the sinking of the "Lusitania" half an hour after that ill-fated vessel sank. He made his visit and was more than pleased to return to California and its wonderful opportunities.

**JOHN P. DOMINGUES.**—Another enterprising native of the ocean-girdled Azores is John P. Domingues, the wide-awake rancher, who was born in the Island of Pico on November 10, 1882, and came to America in his nineteenth year. His father was Frank P. Domingues, a worthy blacksmith, who lived and died in his native land. His mother, Mary, also born in that island, came to California, where she now resides. A brother, Manuel P. Domingues, preceded John to America by a year, and stopped for a while near Bedford, Mass., working on a farm, and then came to California. He sent for John, who came in the fall of 1899, and for fifteen months worked on the Jesus Maria Rancho, after which, in 1909, he made his way to the Santa Maria valley, where he worked out by the month.

After a while he began to rent part of the Catano J. Souza ranch, and today he farms one hundred seventy-five acres, planting the same to beans. He has ten horses and a full complement of machinery; and having learned the blacksmith's trade in his father's shop, he has opened a good forge for himself on the ranch. Prior to engaging in farming, for several years he worked as a blacksmith and tool dresser in the Santa Maria oil fields. For the Pinal-Dome and Los Alamos Oil & Developing Co. he set up several fine blacksmith shops, and in the end secured from his employers many recommendations of the highest order.

After coming to the Santa Maria valley he married Miss Maria G. Souza, a daughter of Catano J. and Mary Dorothy Souza, the facts of whose lives will be found elsewhere. She is a most excellent lady, and is justly proud of the part played by her pioneer father in the development of this section. Three

charming children, named respectively Catano, Albert and John P., Jr., have blessed the union. Frugal, industrious and inspired with the desire to get ahead, a self-made man, indeed, who may well lift up his head and look the whole world in the face, he manages with care and wisdom his well-kept ranch, a mile and a half to the northwest of Santa Maria. In 1916, Mr. Domingues, with his brother, Joseph, and Julius Garcia, bought a hundred sixty acres of the Sweeny ranch near Lompoc, one of the best places in that section. A conscientious Catholic, he is also a member of the U. P. E. C. at Santa Maria; while as a naturalized American citizen, he acts in political matters with independent judgment and always votes for the best man.

**GEORGE SARGENTI** An agriculturist to whom the marvelous fertility of the soil of the Santa Maria valley has brought more than a comfortable living, is George Sargenti, a native son born at Gilroy on September 29, 1889, who came to the valley in 1908. For five years he worked for the Union Sugar Co. at Betteravia, for monthly wages, and then he began to farm for himself.

He rented one hundred forty acres on a four-year lease; and a hundred twenty acres, near Betteravia, have been added to this original parcel to be operated in 1917.

Once well established, he married Miss Annie Souza, a daughter of Antone J. Souza, the well-to-do teacher and large land-owner near Santa Maria, securing thereby for a wife a splendid woman and a good housekeeper, who is particularly popular in the S. P. R. S. I. lodge of Santa Maria. He was also blessed through this marriage with one child, a daughter named Amy.

As a complement to his excellent farm, on which he has a dozen horses, the best obtainable caterpillar, 45 h. p., and every other necessary agricultural appliance, he has built for himself and his family a commodious bungalow reflecting Mrs. Sargenti's taste. The family are members of the Catholic Church in Santa Maria.

**CLEMENT MUSCIO.**—If his success is measured by his progress financially, as well as by his standing in the community where the scenes of his labors have been staged, Clement Muscio stands well towards the top round of the ladder. He started with nothing but a willing spirit, strong constitution and an aptitude to do whatever came to his hand, and to do it well. His career should be an object lesson to those who have been less fortunate and who have often despaired of getting ahead. The opportunities are here and conditions equally as good, for the pioneering has already been done.

A native of Switzerland, Clement Muscio was born in canton Ticino, August 10, 1870, a son of Eustachio and Caterina (Giugini) Muscio, small farmers in Ticino, though the father was handy with tools of all kinds. He died at the age of seventy-eight years in 1910. The mother, now eighty-one, lives on the old home place in Someo. They had five boys and one girl, Seraphino, of Casmalia; Joseph, of Gonzales; Clement; Calimorio, who died in 1892; Victoria, Mrs. A. Francioni of Gonzales; and Michele, who lives in far-off Ticino.

When a lad of seven years Clement began working out for wages, and they were very small, but from that age he has been self-supporting and has made his own way in the world. The first pair of shoes he ever put on was bought with money he earned. Being ambitious, he could see no way that he could accomplish his aims in life by remaining in his native land, and he looked to the United States for a future. Accordingly, when he was sixteen

he borrowed money for his passage; and leaving home, sailed from Havre, September 1, 1886, on the steamer "Normandie," his destination being San Francisco.

On his arrival in the east he at once came to this state and reached Cayucos in October. He was unfamiliar with our language and customs, and took a job on a dairy ranch at twenty dollars per month. For ten years he worked for wages, saving his money, and later, from 1896 to 1911, engaged in the liquor business at Casmalia, and from July, 1898, to October, 1902, he served as postmaster there.

He bought his ranch of twenty-five hundred acres, part of the Arellanes ranch on the Punta de Laguna, incorporated the Soladino Land Company, was made vice-president and still holds that office. This company subdivided part of the holdings, four hundred acres of which was sold to Edward Doheny of Los Angeles, and five hundred twenty-five acres leased for oil development, the balance being farmed by the company. Of the balance retained by Mr. Muscio he sold to the Doheny Pacific Petroleum Company in 1916 four hundred acres at a handsome figure. He still owns three hundred sixty-four acres, upon which are located the farm buildings, and which is being successfully operated as a bean ranch by its owner, in addition to his interest in the land company.

Mr. Muscio was married when he was twenty-two, in 1892, to Miss Matilda Righetti, who, like himself, was a native of Ticino—a friend of his youth. They have five children: Mabel; Nellie, who married C. Bassetti and lives on the home ranch; and Julius, Elvira, and Wesley. Mr. Muscio erected a fine residence on his ranch, has good barns and outbuildings, and is ranching on a large scale.

In 1911 Mr. Muscio took his wife and family for an extended visit back to his old home in Switzerland, but was glad to get back to California. Mr. Muscio is liberal and enjoys thoroughly the good things of life. He has a wide circle of friends and by all who know him he is counted one of the successful business men of the county. He is a Republican in politics, though he never sought office.

**JOSEPH C. SILVA, JR.**—A native son of California, born of Portuguese parents, Joseph C. Silva is the oldest son of Joseph Silva, senior, a very successful rancher in the Santa Maria valley, now enjoying his sixty-fifth year. His mother was Evangeline M. Rodrigues, who is forty-three years of age. Young Joseph was born at Arroyo Grande on November 15, 1888, the first of six children; he attended the public schools and began, when twelve years of age, to work on his father's farm.

Arriving at maturity, he married Miss Mary G. Silva, a daughter of Antone Silva of Casmalia, then one of the estimable Catholic belles of Santa Maria; and by her he has two children—a boy named Louis and a girl named Lucille.

Becoming thoroughly conversant with the raising of beans on a portion of the Bonita Ranch, northwest of Santa Maria, which he rents, he harvested in 1916 alone 3,375 sacks of beans, an exceptional yield for one hundred fifty-two acres. In every sense a progressive rancher, and one of the most successful grain growers in the valley, Mr. Silva employs, in addition to twelve horses, a Holt Caterpillar Tractor of 75 h. p., costing \$5,000 and doing the work of thirty-eight head of horses in ploughing.

Mr. Silva is a Republican who does his own thinking and votes intelligently. He is a member of the U. P. E. C. of Santa Maria; while Mrs. Silva is always welcomed at the gatherings of the S. P. R. S. I.

**FRANK C. SOUZA.**—A native son of California and a popular, progressive and successful rancher of the Santa Maria valley, Frank Souza has been associated with the agricultural development of the county since boyhood. He was born on the Oso Flaco, in San Luis Obispo County, December 27, 1890, and was educated in the public schools until he was eleven. Then, on account of the illness of his father, Catano J. Souza, he had to go to work on the ranch, being the oldest son of the family, and attended to such duties as were possible for a lad of his age. He has grown up in the bean industry, and is an expert on the preparation of the soil, planting, cultivating, harvesting and marketing the crop. He farms one hundred sixty-five acres, one hundred twenty in beans and the balance in barley, gathering very satisfactory crops of each.

In 1910 Frank C. Souza and Miss Julia Lewis were united in marriage; they have two children, Isadore and Dorothy. Mr. Souza is a member of the Santa Maria lodge, U. P. E. C.; and both he and his wife are members of the Catholic Church. In 1915, Mr. Souza erected their bungalow on land belonging to his mother, where they enjoy all comforts possible in a country home. Mr. and Mrs. Souza are popular, and are leaders in their social set in the valley.

The children of Catano J. and Mary Dorothy Souza are all well known throughout the Santa Maria valley. They are Maria G., wife of John P. Domingues, Frank C., John P., Manuel C., and Blanche, all living; while five girls and one boy are deceased. This family represents one of the leading families of the Azores Islands. The father, Catano J. Souza, was a successful rancher, who became the owner of several tracts of valuable land west of Santa Maria. Frank Souza is an energetic, self-made man, who has won the respect of his community.

**WILLIAM L. ENOS.**—As engineer in charge of the gas-treating plant of the Union Oil Company on the Hartnell lease in the Santa Maria oil field, W. L. Enos has made a record for himself in his chosen field; and he is well-known also in athletic and musical circles, more especially, perhaps, in the field of athletics, as a runner and a football star. A native of the state, he was born in San Luis Obispo, September 14, 1883, a son of Louis and Mary G. (Lawrence) Enos, both of the Azores Islands. The father followed the sea from the age of twelve and came to California in 1849. After his arrival here he mined from 1850 to 1853 in Sierra and Napa counties, and also was in the silver mines in Mexico for several years. He was married in San Luis Obispo, and became a rancher. He died in 1913 at the age of eighty-seven, while his widow, now sixty-six, lives in San Luis Obispo. Their four children are Louis A., an attorney; Archie C.; William L.; and George A., of Colusa county.

William L. Enos attended the public schools of San Luis Obispo; and it was while attending the high school that he became interested in athletics. He was prominent in the Southern California Inter-Collegiate Athletic Association, and for several years (1900-1903) held the one-mile running record of five minutes flat. He also distinguished himself as a football player with the San Luis Obispo high school eleven.

Mr. Enos started work as a locomotive fireman for the Southern Pacific, and later worked in the machine shops at San Luis Obispo. In 1911 he began with the Union Oil Company on the Producers Transportation Company's line as fireman, in 1912 was fireman at the Avila refinery, and in 1913 came to the oil fields, where he has since been employed at the gasoline plant, which has a capacity of 1,000 gallons per day of twenty-four hours, making gasoline from natural gas.

As an amateur in music, Mr. Enos has considerable talent, and finds in this a source of pleasure and profit. Himself a violinist, he organized the Enos orchestra of six pieces, in Santa Maria, which plays for dances and entertainments, and at many social functions.

Mr. Enos was united in marriage at San Luis Obispo on October 24, 1908, with Miss Flo B. Chapin, a native of Parsons, Kan. They have five bright children—Richard, Lucile, Marjorie, Elena and Miriam. Mr. Enos is a member of the Moose lodge in Santa Maria and is popular wherever he is known. Both he and his wife have a large circle of friends in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties, where they are leaders in their social set.

**JOSEPH C. PIMENTEL.**—To succeed in face of severe discouragements, and that, too, when handicapped by not being able to speak or understand English, has been the lot of Joseph C. Pimentel of the vicinity of Guadalupe. He was born on Pico island, in the Azores, January 10, 1877, a son of Manuel C. and Isabel C. (Bettencourt) Pimentel, both natives of the Azores. The father is a farmer and still lives at the age of eighty-seven, while the mother died aged seventy-four. They had eight children: Manuel, a baker, and Tony, a merchant, in Rio de Janeiro; Maria, Mrs. Manuel Gudarte, living on the home place on Pico island; Joseph C., of this review; John, a restaurateur, in Rio de Janeiro; August, ranching near Guadalupe; Antonazi, deceased; and Adelida, of Rio de Janeiro.

When seventeen years old, Joseph C. Pimentel bade goodbye to home and friends and came to the United States on the steamer Vega, arriving June 15, 1893, after a voyage of twelve days. His destination was San Francisco; and nine days later he arrived there, a stranger in a strange land. It was at a time when the stress of hard times was widespread over the country, and there were thousands out of work. This young man needed work in order to live, and he was willing to do anything. Hearing that many of his countrymen were in Marin county, he journeyed there and was set to work milking cows for his board.

In the latter part of 1894 he arrived in Arroyo Grande, hunted several days for work and finally got a "job" at \$15.00 a month as milker in a dairy; and for three years he worked for wages. In 1897 he thought he would strike out for himself and paid cash rent to Mrs. Kelley for part of her ranch; but the drouth of 1897-8 made his venture disastrous and he lost everything. He then rented the William Adams ranch on shares, put in beans and beets, got a good crop and made up for what he had lost. The year 1900 was a dry season, but he made up for it in 1901 and in the main he has been very successful. He has farmed on his present place, one hundred and seventy acres of the Guadalupe ranch, for six years.

On July 31, 1902, Mr. Pimentel was united in marriage with Maria Mendoso, daughter of Anton P. Mendoso, a resident of Providence, R. I., though both father and daughter are natives of the Azores. Of this union four chil-

dren have been born: Carlos, who died, aged four years, Virginia, Adelaide, and Joseph M. Mr. Pimentel is a Republican in politics and a member of the I. O. O. F., the Independent Order Druids, U. P. E. C. and I. D. E. S.

In May, 1916, Mr. Pimentel was driving a team hitched to a 2250-pound land roller; they became frightened and ran away, the roller passing over Mr. Pimentel, severely injuring him. His sturdy constitution and iron will soon had him on the road to recovery, and to the satisfaction of his many friends, he is almost wholly recovered. He is public-spirited and generous, a man of fine character, and has a host of well-wishers who rejoice at his success.

**JOHN V. BRASS**—A large bean grower and a successful rancher of the Santa Maria valley, and a son of Joseph, Sr., and Annie L. (Bello) Brass, both natives of the Azores islands, where he was born November 16, 1878, John V. Brass obtained his education in the public schools until he was eleven, and then went with his mother, brothers and sisters to California, whither his father had preceded them about two and one-half years before to get a start in the New World.

Two winters in school in California completed the education of this wide-awake lad, and he set to work on a ranch and has been engaged in farm work ever since, meeting with decided success. He leases one hundred ninety-one acres of fine land which he farms to beans; his many years of experience as a bean raiser has made him an authority on the subject, and no man is more highly esteemed in the valley than is Mr. Brass.

In 1904, Mr. Brass and Miss Annie Oliveria were united in marriage. Mrs. Brass is a daughter of the late Manuel F. Oliveria and his wife, Mary Nunes Silva Oliveria, now a resident of Marysville. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Brass five children have been born: Peter T., Lucy A., John H., Richard J. and Edith E. In politics Mr. Brass is a Republican and takes an active and intelligent interest in the party work in the county. He is a friend of education and has served as a member of the school board of the Laguna district, also acting as clerk for three years.

He is very popular in fraternal circles. He is a member of the I. D. E. S. of Santa Maria, and in 1910 was Grand Master, in 1911-12 was Grand Rector, and in 1913 served as Grand Rector of the U. P. E. C. He is a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. Elks, and Santa Maria Lodge No. 302, I. O. O. F. Both Mr. and Mrs. Brass are members of the Catholic Church, Mrs. Brass being a member of the Altar Society of same. They have spent many years in this section, and both are highly esteemed for their many good qualities and public spirit.

**JOSEPH BRASS, SR.**—A wealthy rancher, now eighty years old, but active and mentally alert as a man of thirty, Joseph Brass, Sr., was born in the Azores islands on March 19, 1834. His early life history, sounding like a romance, would occupy an entire volume if it could be written in detail. He grew to young manhood on a farm, but early in life went to sea and followed it for twenty-five years, touching at almost all the important ports of the world. He sailed in the American barque "Ocean Rover" for years, and was on board that ship when it was overtaken by the "Alabama," as a result of which he was taken to port a prisoner during the Civil War. Returning to America, where he had first landed at Boston in 1861, Mr. Brass resumed the life of a sailor and continued it until a short time before he came to California in 1887.



When Mr. Brass was twenty years old, he was farming and had married Annie Freitas, by whom he had one son. Both mother and child died. The second marriage of Mr. Brass was with Mary Dorothy Valeadao, while on one of his visits to his home port. Two children were born—Anton V. of Santa Maria and Mary Dorothy, widow of C. J. Souza, also of that place. His third marriage united him with Annie L. Bello, and nine children were born. Five of these are now living: Pauline, wife of John Bello; Mary, who married Anton J. Souza; Concepcion, the wife of M. Azevedo; John, who married Annie Oliveria; and Joseph, Jr., the husband of Emily Oliveria. Mr. Brass has fifty-four grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

After leaving the sea, Mr. Brass went home and found that his son, Anton V., had come to California and was located at Guadalupe, Santa Barbara county; so he decided that he would visit him and see the country, and accordingly, in July of 1887, he arrived here and was so well pleased with the district that he planned to locate permanently. He bought land on the flats in the Santa Maria valley for eighty dollars per acre, where the Betteravia sugar factory is now located. He then went back home and disposed of his interests, and came to California to make his new home.

When the Union Sugar Company decided to build their factory, they arranged a trade with Mr. Brass, giving him two hundred fifty-two acres, where he now lives, for his one hundred fifty he had bought first; and Mr. Brass moved onto his new place, improved it and farmed for a time, but is now living retired in the enjoyment of a well-earned rest. He is a Republican and a member of the San Luis Obispo Lodge of Elks, in which he takes a great interest, as he does in all public enterprises and movements for the uplifting of humanity and betterment of the country.

**ANTON SILVEIRA, JR.**—To men of foreign birth California has offered opportunities such as were never enjoyed in their native lands. This is illustrated in the successful career of Anton Silveira, Jr., of the Santa Maria valley. He was born in the Azores islands, January 10, 1873, a son of Anton Silveira, also a native of the Azores, once a resident of California, but now living in Mexico. He came to California in 1875, worked his way from the foot of the ladder, and became a prosperous farmer in the Arroyo Grande valley.

Anton, Jr., received a grammar school education at home, his mother being a teacher, who never came to this country, but makes her home with a married daughter in the Azores. At the age of fifteen young Silveira came to California to join his father. He had no money to get to California after he landed from the ship, and succeeded in borrowing enough on board the ship. He left home on a sailing vessel, March 2, 1888, arriving in Boston April 1. The lad had worked his own way from a child; for after he had taken his school course he worked on lighters that loaded and unloaded the vessels that touched the harbor of Fijol island, attending night school while so employed. This added to his education, for he met English, French and German sailors, and in this way was enabled to speak our language enough to be understood.

After he arrived in California, he had difficulty in locating his father, who was a rancher in the Arroyo Grande valley; but when he did find him, he worked with him until his marriage, and since that time has been farming for himself, raising beans on a large scale in this valley.

In 1893, Anton Silveira, Jr., was married in marriage with Mary Ann Medeiros, and they have had nine children—Joaquin, Joseph, Anton, Jr., Frank, Mary, Lena, Matilda, John and Henrietta. In 1909 the wife and mother passed away, since which time Mr. Silveira has kept his little family together and is rearing them with care and giving them an education that will fit them for responsible positions in life.

Mr. Silveira has served as trustee on the school board in Bonita district. He is a member of San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322, B. P. O. Elks, Guadalupe Lodge of Odd Fellows, Santa Maria Encampment, and the San Luis Obispo Canton; and he is also a Moose and a member of the Eagles. He takes an active and intelligent interest in everything for the good of the community, and has a host of friends. In politics he is a Republican.

**JOSEPH C. SOARES.**—That success is gained by concerted effort, as well as by hard work and good management, is demonstrated in the career of Joseph C. Soares, a rising young rancher of the Santa Maria valley, where, with his father-in-law, Anton V. Bras, he is carrying on a four hundred acre ranch eight miles northwest of Santa Maria. Mr. Soares was born in the Azores islands, February 16, 1882, a son of Joseph Soares, a farmer. His father died and was buried at sea. His mother, Isabel Anna de Almeida, is in the Azores.

The sixth child in order of birth of a family of seven children, Joseph C. Soares received his schooling in his native land, began working on the farm when a mere lad, and remained at home until 1902, when he came to America and settled in the Santa Maria valley in California. He began working for wages, and when he had saved enough he leased land, ranched for himself and raised beans with success. An older brother, Manuel Soares, is also a rancher in the valley.

The land operated by Mr. Soares and his partner comprises four hundred acres of the Bonita ranch and is owned by the LeRoy brothers of San Francisco. The tract is one of the most fertile ranches in the valley, and under the management of Messrs. Bras and Soares yields handsome returns. Mr. Soares has a four-year lease on his property with two years yet (1916) to run.

In 1911 occurred the marriage of J. C. Soares with Miss Maria Bras, a daughter of Anton V. Bras; and they have one child, a daughter, Lena. Mr. Soares is a Republican in politics and belongs to the I. D. E. S. and the U. P. E. C. He is a Catholic.

**ANTON V. BRAS.**—A prosperous rancher of the Santa Maria valley and owner of one hundred sixty-eight acres of valuable land, Anton V. Bras is one of the highly respected and intelligent Portuguese citizens of this state. He was born on May 6, 1867, in the Azores islands, where he received a grammar school education, and lived there until eighteen years of age. An uncle, John Bello, a brother to Anton's stepmother, then owner of a farm in San Luis Obispo County on the Oso Flaco, wrote back for his nephew to come to California, saying that there were very good chances here for him to become independent.

On May 28, 1885, the young man took passage on a very small sailing vessel and landed in Boston July 1 of that year. His destination being California and Santa Maria, he lost no time and arrived at the home of his uncle on July 17. The first ten months in this country he worked for wages on different dairy ranches; then he leased land and began farming for himself.

starting with one span of horses. Today he is the owner of a fine ranch, a beautiful home, and fourteen head of horses, besides a two hundred acre ranch in Colusa county. For ten years Mr. Bras farmed on the Oso Flaco before he settled on his present home place.

At Arroyo Grande, in 1889, Mr. Bras and Miss Maryanna Gloria Silveira were united in marriage and they have become the parents of ten children, eight of whom are living: Mary, the wife of Joseph Soares; Maryanna; Louisa, who married H. G. Silveira; Carrie, the wife of Manuel Silveira; Anton V., Jr.; and Joseph, Ada, and Arthur.

Since becoming a citizen of this country, Mr. Bras has been a Republican in politics, has taken an active interest in educational affairs and for years has served as one of the trustees of the Bonita district, in 1916 being president of the board. He is a member of the Catholic Church, and Mrs. Bras is a member of the Altar Society. Fraternally, he is an Elk, belonging to San Luis Obispo Lodge No. 322; has passed the chairs and served six years as secretary and two years as president of the I. D. E. S.; and also belongs to the U. P. E. C. He is a self-made man, charitable and progressive; and his integrity has never been questioned.

**SEVERINO ZANETTI.**—Not a few of the Swiss settlers in the United States have found their way into California and are numbered among the persevering and industrious citizens of our state. In this list may be included the name of Severino Zanetti, who was born in Bellinzona, canton of Ticino, Switzerland, February 12, 1863, and crossed the ocean to America in 1881, arriving in San Francisco, September 27, with just five dollars in his pocket. He immediately went to Sonoma county, where he got a job digging potatoes at ten cents a sack. He later found work in a dairy, which was more to his liking; for after leaving school at the age of fourteen he had worked with his father on their farm and became familiar with dairying. In his native land he had also spent a couple of years as a warehouseman and shipping clerk for Charles Salvioni, a large dealer in general merchandise at Bellinzona, Switzerland. He did not like the pay received, which was only twenty-five cents a day, although he did like the kind of work; and being ambitious, he wanted to go ahead and make a fortune, but he had no money to begin with or to take him to such a place as might afford an open field for his talent.

Having heard of America as a land of opportunity, California being especially mentioned by many who had located here as a Mecca for his countrymen, he decided he would try his fortunes in the new country and asked his father for enough to pay his passage. His parent had only about two hundred dollars, and not looking favorably upon his proposition, turned a deaf ear to his pleadings. The most natural thing then to do was to appeal to his good mother; and when he asked her assistance, she let him have the money, and August 29, 1881, he left home and came direct to San Francisco. The first year in the state he repaid the loan, and often afterwards he sent money to his parents in the old country.

When Severino Zanetti secured his position with the dairyman, he kept it four years, and then spent another year with another Swiss dairyman, and one with an American to get more familiar with the language. Thus equipped with the methods of carrying on dairying and with our language, he came to Grapeland and went to work for A. P. Tognazzini. Two years later, with

John Tognazzini, he bought out his employer, paying \$8,500 for the farm of one hundred twenty cows, with horses, hogs, young stock and equipment. Each of the partners paid \$1,100; and they gave their notes for the unpaid amount. So well did they prosper, that they wiped out their debt in four years. In 1892 Mr. Zanetti bought out his partner and conducted the business alone. In 1891 he had invested his surplus capital in four hundred acres of land four miles east of Guadalupe, which he farmed many years, but which is now leased to the Union Sugar Co. Mr. Zanetti leases 1,100 acres of the old Adobe ranch five miles from Orcutt, on which he runs a dairy of eighty cows, besides growing beans in large quantities.

In 1889 Severino Zanetti was married to Miss Esterina Ferraris, a native of Italy. They are the parents of the following children: Olympia; Ancella, wife of John Paul Souza; Tilden, a graduate of St. Mary's College of Oakland, class of 1911; Alma, attending the convent at Watsonville; Daisy, a graduate of Notre Dame of San Jose; and Sylvester, a student in the Santa Maria high school. Mr. Zanetti is a staunch supporter of the public school system. By his service on the school board of the Laguna district he has done much to advance the standard of education in his community.

In 1915 he bought four and one-half acres in Santa Maria, and erected a beautiful modern house at a cost of \$10,000, where he installed his family, although he spends much of his time on the ranch looking after his interests. He is a man of cheerful disposition, always busy with his own affairs, but is public-spirited and gives considerable of his time to the advancement of interests that are for the betterment of the community at large. He is considered a "live wire" of the Santa Maria valley.

In 1900, Mr. Zanetti made a trip back to Switzerland and visited his aged parents, Peter and Louisa (Delco) Zanetti, both now deceased. The father died in 1913 aged seventy-seven, and the mother in 1914 at the age of seventy-six. They had eight children in their family, Severino, Joe, Maurice, Plino, Peter, Ferdinando, Fedelino, and Laura, deceased. Joe, Peter and Ferdinando are employed with the Swiss railway; Fedelino is a farmer in Switzerland; Plino, Maurice and Severino are residents of California. The family are of old Roman origin, and many generations ago were very wealthy residents of Milan, Italy.

**FILIPPO PERTUSI.**—A prosperous poultryman and farmer of the Santa Maria valley, Filippo Pertusi was born in canton Ticino, Switzerland, January 10, 1865, a son of Bernardo and Angelina Pertusi, both of whom were born, lived and died in his native land. The father was roadmaster of his district. The second of six children and the oldest son, Filippo was educated in the public schools and brought up in the Catholic faith. After his school days were over, he was apprenticed and served two years at the trade of shoemaker at Masogno, Italy; then he started a shop of his own in that village. He also learned the trade of mason and bricklayer.

When twenty-five years of age, he decided to come to America; and bidding goodbye to friends and relatives, he sailed from Havre, France, in May, 1890, landed in New York in due time and came direct to California, arriving in San Francisco, June 8, 1890. He was without a cent in his pocket, just having enough to pay his fare. He then met some of his countrymen and was provided for, and ten days later he went to Santa Cruz Island and worked for twenty dollars per month, building houses of rock and brick;

but he only remained four months. Coming to Foxen cañon, he found employment on the dairy farm of G. Muscio, and worked steadily for six years.

In the meantime, in 1893, he was united in marriage with Miss Domitila Milani, a native of his home place in Switzerland, and they both continued in the employ of Mr. Muscio until 1896. Having saved their earnings, Mr. Pertusi then leased three hundred twenty acres of John Houk, ten miles southeast of Santa Maria, and they started in the poultry business and in general farming on their own account.

From boyhood Mr. Pertusi has had a struggle for existence, and it was not until he started on his own account, and with the aid of his wife, that prosperity began to smile upon them. His place is arranged for raising poultry and he keeps from nine hundred to two thousand White Leghorns. He hatches his own chickens by four incubators, and has four brooders and separate yards for the chickens of various ages. He has a blacksmith shop on the ranch and does general blacksmithing for his neighborhood. With the aid of his two sons, Mr. Pertusi carries on the ranch and is meeting with success.

The children of the family—James, Linda, Irma and George—have been given every advantage within the means of their parents, and are competent to fill various positions in life. James and George assist with the ranch work; Linda, a graduate of the Los Angeles Normal school, is teaching school at Garey; and Irma is a stenographer. The members of this worthy family are respected by all who know them, and have a wide circle of friends in Santa Barbara county.

**MAURICE ZANETTI.**—As an energetic and prosperous son of Switzerland, Maurice Zanetti has made good in California, and in Santa Maria and vicinity has a host of friends. He was born in canton Ticino, November 1, 1867, a son of Peter and Louisa (Delco) Zanetti; was educated in the native schools until thirteen years old; and then went to work as a clerk in a large tourist hotel at St. Bernardino, Switzerland, remaining there two years. He desired to become an engineer and was apprenticed for one year in the railroad shops in Switzerland. In the meantime he had been formulating plans to come to America; and in 1883 he sailed from Havre, for New York. California was his destination and he arrived in San Francisco in due time. Willing to engage in any honest work he went to Tomales, Marin county, where some of his countrymen were living, and hired out to do farm work for a time; and from there he moved to Duncan's Mill, Sonoma county, and later to Santa Barbara county, and in 1885 worked on a ranch near Guadalupe.

He next formed a partnership with his brother, S. Zanetti, leased eight hundred acres of land and carried on a general farming until he was taken ill in 1891; and in July of that year he returned to Switzerland to recuperate and to visit his old home. While in Switzerland, he was offered a position as locomotive engineer under the government, if he would stay in his native land; but money matters necessitated his returning to America, and he arrived in California in 1894. His business attended to, he went to Ventura and was in the employ of a wholesale liquor house for two years, when he purchased the business and ran it successfully until 1896. Then he sold out and went to Santa Paula and engaged in the same line from 1896 to 1897, coming then to Santa Maria, where he opened the Horseshoe Bar, a wholesale and retail liquor business, which he has continued ever since.

Mr. Zanetti is also the senior member of the firm of M. Zanetti & Co., which operates a ranch of 1,800 acres under lease, extending from the sugar factory to Casmalia, and which is in charge of his brother, P. Zanetti. They raise grain and beans, and have a dairy and stock ranch on a large scale; and they are meeting with very fair success in this venture. Mr. Zanetti owns twenty residence lots in Santa Maria, and resides at 509 West Main street.

In the year 1900, Mr. Zanetti married Anita C. Tonini, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth Tonini, large ranchers of San Luis Obispo County. Mr. and Mrs. Zanetti have four children: Edwina, Ellen, Wilhelmina, and Elizabeth. Mr. Zanetti is a progressive citizen and is respected by his many friends. He is greatly interested in the upbuilding of the town, and plans a beautiful residence for himself on his tract. He is a Republican in politics, and is a member of the Catholic Church.

**JOHN PAUL SOUZA.**—This native son, like his brother Frank, is very popular and broad-minded, and takes a great interest in the upbuilding of the Santa Maria valley, which has been his home since his birth on June 24, 1892, into the home of C. J. and Maria (Bras) Souza, who were both natives of Portugal, and came to this country and were married in San Luis Obispo County. The father was a large bean grower, and improved a three hundred acre ranch in San Luis Obispo County, which he traded for his present estate of five hundred acres. He passed away at the old home in 1915, aged fifty-two years. His widow lives in a comfortable home in Santa Maria.

John Paul Souza attended the public school in the Agricola district, supplementing his grammar course with a term in the San Luis Obispo business college, after which he took up ranching on two hundred acres of the estate of his father. This is very fertile land, two miles west of Santa Maria; and here, in partnership with his brother, Manuel C. Souza, he is successfully raising beans. The brothers are up-to-date ranchers, are supplied with all modern machinery, and with their knowledge of the bean industry are well qualified to make it pay. The industry yields handsome returns after all expenses are paid, netting them a good revenue each year.

In July, 1915, John Paul Souza and Miss Ancella Zanetti were united in marriage, and they reside in a modern bungalow erected by Mr. Souza on part of the Souza estate, located two and one-half miles west of Santa Maria. They are members of the Catholic Church and have a wide circle of friends throughout this part of the county.

**FAUSTINO J. SILVA.**—Faustino J. Silva was born on the Island of Pico, in the Azores, February 6, 1862, and there grew to manhood on the farm, meanwhile attending the local schools. Having heard of the good opportunities that awaited young men who were willing to work, and to be steadily employed, in California, he determined to cast in his lot on the Pacific Coast. In October, 1883, he arrived in San Luis Obispo, and entered the employ of the California Central Co., where he continued for a period of eleven years. Having saved some money, he determined to engage in farming, and for that purpose came to Santa Margarita in 1894. Leasing a part of the Santa Margarita ranch, then owned by Polk Murphy, he bought teams and implements, and engaged in raising grain on a tract of four hundred acres. Six years later he gave up his lease and rented the Estrada ranch at Templeton, which he ran successfully for six years. He then returned to the Santa Margarita ranch, and leased the old place he had previously farmed,

where, with his stepson, John M. Costa, as partner, he is farming five hundred acres a year to grain, making a specialty of raising barley. In the season of 1916 they obtained about 9,000 sacks. Mr. Silva believes in using the latest and most modern implements and machinery, and is now doing his plowing, sowing, harrowing, and gathering of the grain by the use of a Yuba caterpillar engine of forty-horse power.

In San Luis Obispo, Mr. Silva was married to Mrs. Maria Costa, also born in Pico. She died in 1899, leaving a son by her former marriage, John M. Costa, then four years of age, whom Mr. Silva raised and educated and who is now associated with him as a partner.

In politics Mr. Silva is independent, preferring to vote for the man rather than for the party.

**TILDEN E. ZANETTI.**—The son of a well known and successful Swiss rancher in the Santa Maria valley and himself one of the representative young men who are ranching with success, principally raising beans, from which industry he has cleared many thousands of dollars, Tilden E. Zanetti was born on a ranch near Guadalupe, January 13, 1893, a son of Severino Zanetti, of whom an extended mention is made elsewhere in this volume. Young Zanetti attended the public schools of Santa Maria valley, John H. Haydon being his first teacher. He attended the Santa Maria high school two years and one year was spent in the high school of San Jose. Then he took the literary, commercial and mechanical courses at St. Mary's College of Oakland, graduating in 1911, after which he returned to Santa Barbara county to assist his father on the ranch. He now farms independently, leasing two hundred and forty acres of the old Kemp place, and one hundred acres from his father, and is raising beans on an extensive scale with success.

In 1916 Mr. Zanetti was united in marriage with Miss Maimie Schneider, a daughter of E. G. Schneider of Santa Maria. Both Mr. and Mrs. Zanetti are popular in their social set in the valley, and have a host of friends.

**MANUEL J. SANTOS.**—A highly respected citizen and rancher in the Santa Maria valley is Manuel J. Santos, a prosperous Portuguese who came from the Azores islands, where he was born on the island of Pike, April 28, 1870. He was the only son of Manuel Joaquin and Egnacia (Josephina) Santos, both natives of Portugal and now deceased, and went to the common schools in early boyhood. The father migrated to Brazil and engaged in business for a time, but he returned to his native island and passed his last years there. Five girls of the family are still living in the Azores.

At the age of seventeen, young Santos decided to come to California, and on April 8, 1887, he left his native island port and sailed for the United States. Arriving in Boston, he at once set out for California, reaching here on May 26 of that year. He worked in San Francisco a few months, then came to Arroyo Grande, and for two and one-half years was working for wages. With his savings, he went to the Oso Flaco; leased land and began ranching.

As he succeeded, he bought land in 1898 and made all the necessary improvements, and in 1910 he moved onto it. In 1911 he erected a fine home of the bungalow style of architecture, and with his wife and daughter is living in the enjoyment of his means, leasing the land for raising beans. The property consists of eighty acres of valuable land located one and one-half miles west of Santa Maria. In 1904 he purchased nine hundred twenty three acres

on the Los Osos road, which also is leased, and in 1902 he bought two hundred acres on the Suey ranch. In early days the beans were pulled by hand, and threshed by the tramping of horses. The prices ranged from fifty cents to ninety cents a cental.

April 26, 1911, Mr. Santos was united in marriage with Miss Laura Soares, a native of the Azores, who came to California when she was eighteen years of age. They have one daughter, Cecelia. Mr. Santos is a Republican and he and his wife are members of the Catholic Church.

**LORENZO NERELLI.**—Lorenzo Nerelli, who is engaged in farming in the Ascension district, was born in Foggia, Italy, January 23, 1883, the son of a farmer, Thomas Nerelli. Lorenzo was brought up on the farm, and attended the public schools. Deciding to cast in his lot in America, he came to New York City in 1906, and gradually made his way westward, arriving in California in 1907. Coming almost immediately to San Luis Obispo County, he found employment at charcoal-burning. Afterwards he engaged in burning charcoal on his own account in the vicinity of Paso Robles and Templeton, shipping the product to Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Oakland.

Mr. Nerelli was united in marriage, in Idaho, with Mrs. Cerrina Branca, who was also born in Italy; and after their marriage, he returned to San Luis Obispo County with his wife, and she purchased the ranch of one hundred four acres where he is engaged in farming. Mr. Nerelli still continues, also, in the burning of charcoal, by this means clearing the balance of the land and putting it under the plow. He is meeting with deserved success, and is rapidly making of his place a garden spot, the soil being very rich and fertile.

By her first marriage, Mrs. Nerelli had two children, Raymond and Alice Branca; and the present union has been blessed with one child, Aldo. The family are members of the Catholic Church.

**MANUEL J. TRIGUEIRO.**—The motto, "Nothing succeeds like success," is aptly illustrated in the life story of Manuel J. Trigueiro of the Santa Maria valley, who began at the bottom of the ladder of success and has gradually worked his way towards the top. He is a naturalized citizen of the United States, is interested in all good movements to build up the county, and by attending strictly to his business affairs has "made good." He was born in the Island of Flores, of the Azores group, June 29, 1863, a son of John J. and Anna (Harmens) Trigueiro, the former of whom lived to be sixty-four, and the latter seventy years old. They never left their native island, where for generations the families have been farmers and stock-raisers. The paternal grandmother lived to be over one hundred years old. Four children were born to John J. and Anna Trigueiro: Manuel J.; Mary Armas, single, living on the old home farm; Frank J., a stockman at Elko, Nev.; and Joe F., in the Island of Flores.

Attending school and working on the home farm until he was eighteen is the story of the early life of Manuel J. Trigueiro. Then he came to the United States, landing in Boston, and worked on farms in Rhode Island for three and one-half years, beginning at ten dollars a month. He came to California after he had made enough money in the east to defray his expenses, worked one season on the Oso Flaco, and then spent eighteen months in Tulare county. With his savings he went to Eureka, Nev., staying there



five years, and then went to Elko and started in the sheep business, in time becoming owner of 8,000 head.

In 1907, Mr. Trigueiro returned to the Azores and married Anna Freitas Martinez, a native of Flores and a daughter of Joseph F. Martinez, who later came to California. After their marriage, the young couple came to Mr. Trigueiro's sheep ranch in Nevada, that had been cared for while he was away, and began with renewed energy. In 1909 he sold out and came to the Santa Maria valley and engaged in raising hay, grain and beans; and in 1916 he harvested 1,500 sacks of beans. He owns two hundred acres that he purchased of the Union Sugar Co. in 1909. They have a modest but comfortable home, which radiates good cheer and plenty, and is presided over by his estimable wife, who, by her frugality in domestic affairs, has contributed largely to the material success of her husband.

Mr. and Mrs. Trigueiro are members of the Catholic Church, and have many friends in their community. In 1912 they made a trip back to their native land and spent about a year, but were glad to get back once more to California, where they had laid the foundation of their success.

**THOMAS MINETTI.**—Thomas Minetti is a native of California, born at Cayucos, San Luis Obispo County, June 18, 1894, the son of Secondo and Camilla (Tonini) Minetti, both natives of canton Ticino, Switzerland, and early settlers of Cayucos. They raised a family of six children, all of whom are living, Thomas being the second youngest.

Mr. Minetti was educated in the public schools. After completing the Cayucos grammar school, he entered the employ of the Diamond Creamery, ten miles north of Cayucos, where he spent two years learning the creamery business. Then, in 1910, he entered the employ of the Central Creameries Co. at Cayucos, and continued with them and their successors, the California Central Creameries, until 1912, when he became manager of the Cayucos creamery. In this capacity he has continued ever since, having charge of the plant and engaging in the manufacture of butter, which is shipped to Los Angeles, San Francisco, and New York City. They also manufacture caseine. Mr. Minetti was married in San Luis Obispo on October 17, 1916, to Miss Rose Tartaglia, who was born in Cayucos. He and his wife are members of St. Joseph's Church at Cayucos. His political views favor the principles of the Republican party.

**ELISCO B. RUIZ.**—No better instance and illustration of the self-made and substantial business men of the Santa Maria valley exists than E. B. Ruiz, proprietor of a general merchandise store at Garey. His success is founded upon an untiring capacity for work and genius for detail. A native son of California, Mr. Ruiz was born on the Ruiz ranch in the Santa Maria valley, August 23, 1876, and was educated in the public schools and in St. Mary's College in Oakland, where he was graduated from a commercial course. He grew to manhood on the Ruiz and Tepesquet ranches, engaged in ranching, and in 1908 was united in marriage with Miss Esperanza Ontiveros, daughter of Alexander and Biviana (Ruiz) Ontiveros. They have one son, Bartholomew E.

In the spring of 1916, Mr. Ruiz bought an acre and a half in the center of the town site of Garey and erected a fine bungalow home and also a store building, which he stocked with an entire new stock of staple and fancy groceries, confections, dry goods, clothing and furnishings, giving his per-

sional attention to the business and the building up of a successful trade. Mr. and Mrs. Ruiz are members of the Catholic Church, Mrs. Ruiz being a member of the Altar Society of the same.

Mr. Ruiz is a descendant of one of the oldest Spanish families in Southern California, his grandfather being Nicholas Ruiz, a respected rancher of Los Angeles county as it originally was platted. His father, John Baptiste Ruiz, was born in Los Angeles, and at one time the family owned the Placentia ranch, now situated in Orange county, then a part of Los Angeles county. He was a large stock man, and married Miss Rita Ontiveros, a sister of Abraham Ontiveros, of whom extended mention is made elsewhere in this work. They had several children: Adolph, of Fresno; Michael, of Carpinteria; Joseph, in the Santa Maria valley; Elisco B., of this review; Estanislao N., on the home ranch; Mary, Mrs. Permassee, of Cuyama valley, and Hobie, a blacksmith, on the home ranch near Garey.

**JOSE G. ROSA.**—A native of the Azores group, born on the island of Pico, May 8, 1877, Joe G. Rosa attended the public school and worked on the home farm until he was fourteen. He then came to the United States, landing at Newport, R. I., where a cousin was located; and there he went to work on a farm, being paid ten dollars per month in summer and five dollars in winter. He remained two years, until he had saved enough money to bring him farther west, for he had his mind set on California.

In 1893 he arrived in San Luis Obispo, got employment at once on a dairy ranch and worked by the month until he was married; then, with his helpmate, he felt encouraged to strike out for himself and leased some land, adding to his equipment each year and doing successful farming until he had saved enough to buy a farm of his own. This he did in 1912, when he purchased seventy-seven acres from the Union Sugar Co.

After buying land, Mr. Rosa commenced making improvements; he erected a bungalow, built barns and fenced the land, and began raising beans as a specialty. In 1916 he produced three hundred sixty sacks of beans, which netted him a fancy price.

On March 12, 1903, Mr. Rosa married Miss Edeline Martin at Nipomo, and they have two children, Laura, born January 26, 1904, and Mabel Genevieve, born March 15, 1910. Mrs. Rosa is a daughter of Manuel Martin, a prominent rancher of San Luis Obispo County. Mr. Rosa's parents, Frank and Mary Rosa, were landowners, who had three sons, Manuel, Frank and Jose G. The mother and her other two sons are living on Pico Island; the father is dead.

**JOSE S. CALDERON.**—A son of a pioneer Spanish family, Jose S. Calderon is a much-respected citizen of Garey, where he owns a place of six acres. Here he built a fine bungalow, where he and his family reside. He also owns a quarter section in the Tepesquet range.

Mr. Calderon was born March 20, 1884, in Sisquoc, and is the second living member of a family of seven children born to his parents, Jose J. and Maria (Ruiz) Calderon, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this volume. He secured his education in the public schools, and began working as a farm hand for H. S. Kelly in 1898, at fifty cents a day. For fourteen years he continued working for wages on ranches and in the Garey blacksmith shop, where he learned the blacksmith's trade. He now has a shop of his own, in which he does his own work. He is an extensive bean raiser, his crop of 1916

having brought him \$11,000. He owns about twenty-two head of horses and mules, twenty-five head of cattle, and a full complement of farming machinery.

In 1898, when twenty-two years of age, Mr. Calderon was united in marriage with Miss Bessie Elliott, a granddaughter of the late Charles W. Bradley, a banker and large property owner, and a leading citizen of the county. Of this union one child has been born, Francis J.

Mr. Calderon is a member of the board of trustees of Garey school district, and is serving as clerk of the board. He is road master of the East Garey road district, and in every way has aided in the development of the resources of the county in which he lives. He is progressive and prosperous, and of the Spanish lads who resided in the valley he is the only one now there who, starting on his own resources, has made good. He is justly popular with all classes; and he and his wife enjoy the confidence and esteem of a wide circle of friends in the valley, where they are leaders in their social set.

**JOSEPH V. LOPEZ.**—The term self-made applies in its truest sense to Joseph V. Lopez, who has traveled a long and hard road to reach his present position among the successful ranchers of the Santa Maria valley. He was born in St. George island, the Azores, on August 22, 1872, attended the Portuguese public schools and began when only eleven years old to work as a tender with his father, who was a stone mason. He learned to dress stones and to build walls, and later became a full-fledged stone mason, even building some stone houses in his native land. His father, George V. Lopez, born in St. George island, eighty years ago, after a useful life is now living retired in his home. He was married twice.

Among the children of his first wife we mention Manuel, now residing in the Azores, though formerly a dairyman in San Mateo county; John, who is also following his trade at home; Joseph V., the subject of this review; Mary, Mrs. J. S. Luis of Edna, San Luis Obispo County; Tony, who owns a ranch near Edna; and Edna, the youngest daughter, who was but a few days old when her mother died about thirty years ago, and is now the wife of Manuel Silva, a rancher in San Luis Obispo County. The children of the second marriage of the father were two sons and three daughters.

Joseph V. Lopez decided that he would come to America to better his condition, for his older brother had written him from Pescadero that money was to be made in California by anyone who would be willing to do hard work, so that at the age of sixteen he struck out from his home on a three-masted sailing vessel for Providence, R. I., and with very favorable winds the trip across the Atlantic was made in fifteen days. Stopping a few days in Boston, the young lad then set out for California and after his arrival here joined his brother in San Mateo county and went to work on a dairy ranch. He soon quit his job and was employed in building the reservoir for the Spring Valley Water Co. of San Francisco, and three months later he resumed work on a ranch. He took any work that came along, chopping wood and working on a threshing machine, and always kept busy.

In 1895 M. Lopez came to Santa Maria and threshed for a season, when he rented land on the Suey ranch. Ever since he has followed farming with very good results. He has always been something of a mechanical genius, handy with tools and machinery, and in company with Mark H. Whitney for a partner in a threshing outfit, he has usually kept busy during the season and has added to his income. Santa Barbara county has been the scene

of Mr. Lopez's activities since 1895, with the exception of two years spent in the vicinity of Stockton, where he suffered a loss of about \$30,000 on account of water flooding Boulding island. At another time he lost his barn and contents by fire, but even with these losses and discouragements he has kept a smiling face and has kept hard at work, and now owns eighty acres of land, besides renting other tracts.

Mr. Lopez was united in marriage August 13, 1888, with Miss Isabelle Cordeiro, daughter of A. J. and Mariana (Fonseca) Cordeiro, the former living near Oceano and the latter deceased. The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Lopez are: Mary and Rosa, twins; and Barbara and Ernest. Mr. Lopez has looked well to the future, having invested somewhat in oil stocks and insurance, as well as profiting by his ranching and threshing operations. He bought his ranch of eighty acres in 1902 and moved onto it, and has leased land on the Suez almost every year he has been in the valley, farming as high as eight hundred twenty-five acres. He is a Mason, having been a member of Hesperian Lodge No. 264 for the past twelve years, and lives up to the precepts of the order. He is a member of the U. P. E. C. and the I. D. E. S., while his wife belongs to the ladies' auxiliary of the U. P. E. C. They are members of the Catholic church. Politically he aims to vote for the men best suited for the offices, regardless of party lines. Mr. Lopez is broad-minded, progressive, upright and honest—a man who makes and retains friends wherever he goes.

**ANGIOLINO BASSI**—A well-known and highly-esteemed citizen and business man of Santa Margarita and Atascadero, Angiolino Bassi was born in Cerentino, canton Ticino, Switzerland, September 20, 1868, a son of Cesare and Candida (Padovani) Bassi, natives of the same canton. The father was an educated man, and a teacher and educator of prominence until his death. The mother resides in San Luis Obispo County with her children. Of her twelve children, Angiolino is the oldest.

Angiolino Bassi was educated in the schools of Switzerland, where he pursued his studies till fourteen years of age. Thereafter he was employed on farms until he was able to save up enough money to come to California, the goal of many ambitious young Swiss boys, who, on account of reports of good wages and steady employment here, and the prospect of success, are eager to reach our shores. When sixteen years of age, he left home and kindred and went to Havre, where he took passage on the steamer "Canada" for New York City. After landing there, he crossed the continent to San Francisco, arriving on November 4, 1884, and reached Cayucos, San Luis Obispo County, a few days later. It was necessary for him to seek employment; and this he immediately found on the dairy ranch of A. Tognazzini, where he remained for three years. He then took a trip into other counties, but returned to San Luis Obispo County in about a year and located in Paso Robles, where he followed farming.

Later, in partnership with his brother, Mr. Bassi engaged in the wood business. They bought stumpage and cut wood, shipping it by the carload out of Paso Robles. They also bought land, from which they cut the wood. The brothers dissolved partnership; and in 1908 Mr. Bassi removed to Santa Margarita and engaged in the wood business for himself. Since then he has been shipping to Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Jose, and San Luis Obispo. He has men cutting wood all the while, at times as many as fifty or sixty. Of late he is cutting and clearing around both Santa Margarita and Atasca-

dero, shipping from Eaglet, Ascencion, and Atascadero. Meanwhile, he is also engaged in farming on the Santa Margarita ranch.

He has just completed a fine residence in Santa Margarita, where he lives with his family. Mr. Bassi was married at San Luis Obispo, on November 9, 1910, to Miss Marie Bertazzi. She was born in Leventina, canton Ticino, the daughter of Genesio and Julia (Rosselli) Bertazzi, dairy folks and farmers. She came to California in April, 1907. They have one child, Inez.

In politics, Mr. Bassi is a staunch Republican, believing the policies of that party best suited to the general welfare of the country. He has never had reason to regret his decision to come to America, where he believes a poor young man may best make a living, and by energy and economy obtain a competency.

**PAUL SILACCI.**—Paul Silacci, a resident of California for thirty-nine years, was born in Intragna, canton Ticino, Switzerland, May 17, 1860. His father, Dominico Silacci, was a farmer, who came to Cambria, Cal., in 1891, but returned to Switzerland in 1896, and died there five years ago, aged eighty years. His mother was Caroline (Cavalli) Silacci, and she died at her old home thirty years ago. Of their eight children, five are living, three being in California: Antone and Peter, both living at Cambria, and Paul, the subject of this sketch.

Paul Silacci was brought up as a farmer boy, and was educated in the public schools. When seventeen years of age, he came to California, arriving in San Francisco, and for three and a half years thereafter he worked on a dairy. In November, 1880, he came to Cayucos, where he worked out for two years, and then started in for himself. He leased the David Morro place of 1,800 acres near Cambria, and engaged in dairying. He was on one place for twenty-nine years, and ran a dairy of one hundred fifty cows or more, manufacturing butter in the old way, by panning and skimming, until his separator was installed. In 1911 he gave up the lease, and bought a ranch of 1,000 acres in Villa creek cañon. After running this ranch one year, he decided to return, and leased the place. His ranch is a splendid dairy ranch, about nine miles from Cayucos, where he now resides.

In 1905, at San Francisco, Paul Silacci was married to Miss Giacomina Pellandra, who was also born in Intragna. They have five children: Theodore, Caroline, Mary Enas, Peter, and Henry.

In 1884 Mr. Silacci became a citizen of the United States, and ever since has been a Republican. He is a progressive citizen, and believes in aiding any cause that has for its end the upbuilding of the community and the uplifting of its citizens.

**ACHILLE STORNI.**—Achille Storni came to California in 1871, and since that time has been closely associated with the dairy business. He was born in Solduno, canton Ticino, Switzerland, on January 2, 1851, the son of Nicola and Geronimi Storni, farmers of that canton, both now dead. Of their five children, four are living, our subject being the youngest. A brother, Nicola, now resides in San Luis Obispo; and the other two are in Ticino.

When a lad, Achille Storni attended the local schools until fourteen years of age, working at home till 1871, when he came to California. He was the first of the family to emigrate to the Golden West, and was induced to come on account of the glowing reports from the Coast. The trip took a month. He arrived in Petaluma in December, 1871, and went to work on a dairy ranch at twenty dollars a month, where they used to pan and skim the milk,

and also churn, by hand. He had borrowed two hundred dollars from his mother to pay his way here; and as soon as he had saved that amount, he sent it back to her with interest. He continued to work, and saved enough money to engage in business for himself.

In 1881 he came to San Luis Obispo County and located near Cayucos. He leased a ranch of five hundred acres, bought a herd of other cows, and engaged in dairying. At first he panned and skimmed the milk, and churned by hand, but later on got a horse-power churn. He ran this dairy for ten years, and then bought his present place of four hundred twenty acres on Old creek, about four miles from Cayucos. On this property Mr. Storni made the improvements, building residence, barns and dairy houses, which last are now equipped with the De Lavel power separator. He has from fifty to fifty-five cows in the dairy. The place is well watered by Old creek and numerous springs, and has ample water for the stock in the different pastures.

On December 5, 1882, Mr. Storni was married to Miss Chelestina Searoni, who was born in Gordola, canton Ticino; and they have seven children, as follows: Achille, who is farming near Cayucos; Charles, who runs the home dairy; Clelia, Mrs. C. Ghezzi, who resides in Cayucos; Enio, still at home; Irene, clerking in Cayucos; Daria, Mrs. A. V. Ramonitti of Cambria; and Flora, at home.

Mr. Storni made his first trip back to Switzerland in 1882; and in 1910 he took the trip again, with his wife and his daughter Irene. He has served as school trustee of Central district for several years. In politics, he is a Republican.

**MANUEL NUNEZ.**—A worthy representative of a fine Portuguese family on the island of Pico, where he was born on January 3, 1862. Manuel Nunez has held the respect and good will of all who know him. He grew to young manhood in his native island, attending the common schools and working on a farm until he was nineteen, and then came to the United States, and at Fall River, Mass., was employed in a brick yard for two years. With the money he had saved he came to California in 1883, and for sixteen months worked on the wharf at San Pedro. His next move was to Morro, where he found work on the Cantona ranch, remaining one year; then he rented some land and has since been engaged in farming for himself, and has met with success.

In 1911 Mr. Nunez moved to the Suey ranch in Santa Barbara county, where he leases six hundred acres of land, and farms to grain, beans and hay. In 1916 he raised 1,447 sacks of barley, 844 sacks of beans, and 429 tons of hay; and in this enterprise he is becoming independent. With his son-in-law, Frank Gonzalves, he owns one hundred eight and one-half acres of land, six miles east of Santa Maria on the Garey road, where Mr. Gonzalves erected a bungalow, barn and other necessary buildings, costing about \$3,000, and now makes his home.

Mr. Nunez married Miss Rita Lewis, also born in the island of Pico, and they have nine children. Mary Gloria married Frank Gonzalves; Rosa Lee is the wife of George Freitas of San Luis Obispo; Anton is farming with his father; Lena has become the wife of Manuel Alfaro of Cambria; Emma is at home; Emma married Anton Vargas of Santa Cruz; and Paulina, Rita and Minnie are all at home. The family are members of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Santa Maria; and Mr. Nunez is a member of the I. D. E. S., while two of his sons belong to the U. P. E. C. lodge.

Manuel Nunez, as he is known by all his friends, dropped his last name for convenience; but on all legal documents he signs his full name, Manuel Nunez Brinkino. His father, Frank Nunez Brinkino, died in 1900, aged eighty-five years, and after his death his widow came to the United States and now makes her home in Santa Maria, still hale and hearty at the age of eighty-six. Mr. Nunez is a hard-working man, progressive and successful.

**ESTANISLAO N. RUIZ.**—General farming and stock-raising were the principal industries followed in the Santa Maria valley for many years, until these were succeeded by more intensive farming, such as that of beets and beans. With the changing of the productions, time has worked changes with the people also. A representative of a proud Castilian family, and a respected citizen of the vicinity of Sisquoc, E. N. Ruiz was born on May 7, 1879, on the Ruiz ranch. He attended the Garey and Suey public schools. He has worked on the home place ever since he was old enough to drive a team, and is now running the J. B. Ruiz ranch of one hundred sixty acres, together with the Mrs. Lindsay ranch. On December 4, 1916, E. N. Ruiz married Miss Inez Foxen of Los Alamos, daughter of Fred and Louisa Foxen.

The Ruiz family are numerous in the valley, and are among the prominent families of Spanish descent that settled in California in an early period. They at one time had extensive holdings in what is now Orange county. After the family had settled in Santa Barbara county, they became actively interested in its upbuilding. The grandfather, Nicholas, and the father, John Baptiste Ruiz, were prominent characters in the early days. The latter died, on October 25, 1914, at the age of seventy-seven. His widow, Mrs. Rita Ontiveros Ruiz, lives on the home place and also owns three hundred twenty acres up the Santa Maria river.

The Ruiz estate has never been divided, and all the members of the family work in harmony for their best interests. They are members of the Catholic Church. Mr. E. N. Ruiz is a member of Santa Maria Aerie, No. 1745, F. O. E. He is a trustee of the Garey school district, and is also serving as road master of the Garey road district. Politically, he is a Republican.

**LOUIS G. PEDRAITA.**—A resident of Cayucos for thirty-four years, Louis G. Pedraita was born in Giubiasco, canton Ticino, Switzerland, April 27, 1864. His father, Charles Pedraita, came around Cape Horn to California in 1849, when a young man, landing at San Francisco. For a time he followed mining, but later took up farming in the vicinity of San Francisco and San Jose. After spending twenty-four years in the Golden State, he returned to Switzerland, where he married Angelena Tomenelli, who was born in his native place. They were the parents of six children, of whom two are living, Louis being the youngest of the family. Charles Pedraita was the proprietor of a hotel; and he also owned a mill, run by water power, where he manufactured flour.

Louis G. Pedraita was educated in the public schools. In his youth he learned the miller's trade, and also worked at the carpenter's trade. In December, 1882, he left home and started for California, arriving in Cayucos in January, 1883. For seven years he was employed on different dairy farms, and then made a trip back to his old home, where he remained for two years. Returning to Cayucos, he leased a building and opened the American Hotel on Main street, continuing in business there until 1895, when the property was destroyed by fire. He then bought the lot and built a new hotel on the same

site, which he named the New Swiss Hotel. Here he met with success until a second fire, in 1898, again destroyed the building, causing a total loss. He next put up a store building, which he rented until he sold the lot, when he removed the building to the present site of the Cottage Hotel and remodeled it. Here his wife is now engaged in the hotel business; and the Cottage Hotel is the leading and finest hotel in Cayucos. Mr. Pedraita has resumed the carpenter's trade, and is engaged in contracting, building, and jobbing.

In 1882, in Cayucos, Mr. Pedraita was married to Anita Porocini, born in Novara, Italy, the daughter of Donato and Josephine Porocini, who removed with their family to Cadenazo, canton Ticino, Switzerland. Mrs. Pedraita was educated in Italy and, after removing to Ticino, met and became acquainted with Louis Pedraita. She came to Cayucos the year of her marriage. Here she devotes all of her time to the hotel, and her ability in the culinary art is attested by the splendid meals served at her place. Mr. and Mrs. Pedraita have four children. Henry runs the truck for the Harmony Valley Creamery; Lillie, Mrs. Arrigoni, resides in San Francisco; Peter is in the employ of the James Cass Co.; and Elma lives at home.

Mr. Pedraita is a member and past officer of the Druids Lodge at Cayucos. In national politics he is an ardent Republican.

**LUIS PAOLINI.**—On the Muscio ranch, about two miles north of Cayucos, Luis Paolini is making a success of dairying. He was born in Ravecchia, canton Ticino, Switzerland, April 21, 1892, and is the son of Antonio and Virginia (Bassi) Paolini, farmers there. He was reared on the farm and learned dairying as it is carried on in Ticino. He was educated in the public schools. After completing the grammar school, he entered the high school in Bellinzona, where he pursued his studies for two years.

Having four uncles in California, three of them in San Luis Obispo County, he had heard of the opportunities offered here to a young man of energy, and willingness to work; and so he decided to come to California. Accordingly, he quit school and set out for the New World. On October 12, 1909, he arrived in San Luis Obispo. For about two years, he worked for his uncle, Alex Bassi, in Harmony valley, and then entered the employ of the Harmony Valley Creamery, where he remained for six months. Afterwards he was engaged at different dairies until 1916, when he leased the Muscio ranch of 1,153 acres and began in the dairy business on his own account. It is a fine dairy ranch, and he usually milks about one hundred twenty-five cows. The milk is separated by power, and milk and cream are shipped to Cayucos and to San Luis Obispo. He raises grain and hay on the ranch, for his stock.

Mr. Paolini is a member of Cayucos Lodge, No. 90, of the Druids, of which he is an officer. In national politics he is a believer in the principles of the Republican party.

**ELIGIO ROTANZI.**—A resident of the vicinity of Cayucos for the last twenty-six years, Eligio Rotanzi was born in Peccia, canton Ticino, Switzerland, March 9, 1871, the son of Gaetano and Isabelle Rotanzi, farmers there. The father had made a trip to California in 1874, and followed farming near Watsonville for five years, when he returned to his home. In the family of three children, Eligio Rotanzi is the second oldest. The oldest of the family, Rev. Albert Rotanzi, is a priest; the youngest, Fred, is a railroad conductor.

Eligio Rotanzi was educated in the public schools of his native canton, and worked on the farm until he came to California. When nineteen years



of age he started for the Pacific Coast, leaving home on October 28, 1890, and arriving in San Luis Obispo on November 17 of the same year. He was employed in a dairy at Los Osos for about one year, and then for six months in the Chorro valley, when he went to San Jose and followed dairying from May, 1892, till November, 1894. Returning then to San Luis Obispo County, he came to Cambria, where he was employed in various dairies. He then worked for three years on Old creek, when he became foreman of the Antone Tognazzini ranch on Cayucos creek. After continuing in this position for seven years, he bought the cows and leased the place of 1046 acres, and since 1906 has conducted the dairy on his own account. Here he milks about one hundred twenty cows, separating the milk with a De Lavel power separator. Formerly, the milk was panned, and skimmed by hand; and the cream was churned for butter by horse power. He raises grain and hay on the place, for which he uses two six-horse teams.

In 1914, Mr. Rotanzi bought a ranch of five hundred twelve acres on the Cambria road, which he devotes to stock-raising and dairying.

In Cayucos, occurred the marriage of Eligio Rotanzi to Miss Carolina Giovanetti, who was born in canton Ticino, Switzerland. They have five children: Guido, Alice, Delia, Albert, and Norman.

Mr. Rotanzi is a member of the Lodge of Druids, in which he has passed the chairs, and is also a member of the Foresters of America in Cayucos, of which he is trustee. He is a supporter of the Republican party in national politics, deeming the principles of that party best suited for the prosperity of the country.

**JOSE J. CALDERON.**—A native of Santa Barbara county, and a representative of those early families who were leaders of affairs in the days of the Spanish and Mexican periods in this great western commonwealth, Jose J. Calderon was born November 2, 1856, a son of Ballentyne and Salvadora (Cordero) Calderon. The father was born near San Diego, and had a brother named Jose J., who lived in Santa Barbara, and for whom our subject was named. The parents are both dead, the mother having passed away in 1862, and the father at the age of seventy. Several generations of the family have been residents of California, and represent the early Spanish families here. Ballentyne and Salvadora Calderon had a family of five children: Longarda, wife of Jose Pico, of Los Alamos; Jose J., the subject of this sketch; Juan S., of Santa Barbara; Francisco, deceased; and Mrs. Maria McGuire, of Santa Barbara.

Jose J. never had a chance to attend school. He worked out on ranches as a cowboy, and in 1876 came north to this county, where he was employed as a laborer until 1883. He was then able to buy a small place of five and one-half acres, where his home now stands. For thirty years, Mr. Calderon worked on threshing machines in this county, saving his money, which he invested in land from time to time, until he now has forty-five acres that he calls his own, all made by hard work and good management.

In 1879, Jose J. Calderon married Maria A. Ruiz, daughter of Juan de la Croix Ruiz. Seven children have blessed this union. Juan died at the age of twenty-nine years. Olympia became Mrs. Frank Goodchild, and is now deceased. Those living are: Valentine; Jose, of Garey, of whom mention is made elsewhere in this work; Lisandro, who married Dolores Rivers, and is agent for the Pacific Coast Railway at Sisquoc; Ida, who married Tony Westmoreland, of Sisquoc; and Romaldo, who lives at home.

**MRS. MARY GUERRA.**—Of the women who have entered into the arena of business affairs, mention is due Mrs. Mary Guerra, proprietor of the Swiss American Hotel at Cambria. She was born in Palognedra, Centovalle, canton Ticino, Switzerland, February 9, 1854, a daughter of James Guerra, a farmer there, who married Mary Maggetti, a native of the same canton. They both died in the old home. Of their nine children, she was the seventh in order of birth.

Mary Guerra had the advantages of the public schools in her native place, and it was there that she was united in marriage with James Guerra, on June 3, 1877. He was raised to manhood's estate in canton Ticino, on his father's farm, and served his time in the Swiss army. They resided in Switzerland until 1891, when they decided that California held better opportunities for them.

On arriving in this state, they settled in Cambria and soon afterwards engaged in the hotel business, their hotel being the oldest hotel in Cambria or on this part of the coast. Here Mr. Guerra passed away, on July 10, 1912, at the age of fifty-six years. He was a member of the Foresters of America and of the Druids. Of the union of Mr. and Mrs. Guerra six children were born: Paul; Rosie, the wife of Joseph Barlogio, of the vicinity of Morro; Emilio, deceased; Irene and Lily, twin girls; and Birdie.

Mrs. Guerra deserves great credit for what she has accomplished; for by her energy and close application to business, she has made a success of her hotel. She is genial and kind-hearted, and is held in the highest esteem by the whole community. She is public-spirited and does her part towards supporting public movements for the benefit of the town. She advocates the principles of the Republican party.

**PETER SILACCI.**—A resident of California since 1884, and of San Luis Obispo since 1885, Peter Silacci was born in Intragna, canton Ticino, Switzerland, March 26, 1868, the son of Dominicus Silacci, and a brother of Paul and Antone Silacci, whose sketches also appear in this work.

Peter Silacci was educated in the public school, and in the gymnasium in Locarno, where he attended for two years. When sixteen years of age, he decided to come to California. In Switzerland he was in the employ of Joseph Magona, in the Swiss Hotel Locarno, as a waiter. His idea had been, to go to London and study English, and then to Vienna to learn German as spoken there, and so become a successful waiter; but his father induced him to give up the idea and come to California instead, where two brothers already were located, who wrote back encouraging reports concerning the country and its opportunities. He left Locarno on October 29, 1884, and arrived in San Francisco in November, 1884, where he was employed as a waiter in a restaurant.

In the spring of 1885, Mr. Silacci came to Cambria, where he worked for some time on a dairy ranch. In 1888 he was employed in the Cosmopolitan Hotel in Cayucos. Here he remained for two years, and then bought the hotel, of which he was proprietor during the year following. He then sold out, and again engaged in dairying. Leasing the James Muscio ranch on Cambria road, he stocked it with a dairy herd, and for eighteen years ran a dairy of about ninety cows, raising stock in the meantime. When the place was sold, he had to dispose of his cattle. He then leased the John Taylor ranch, on the coast at Cambria, and operated a dairy of fifty cows. After three years, he sold out and bought his present place of seven hundred

acres on Santa Rosa creek, the old D. F. Wittenberg ranch, but could not take possession until the two-year lease expired. He moved to Cambria, therefore, and ran a small dairy until October, 1915, when he moved on his place and began to make improvements, rebuilding where this was necessary, and stocking the ranch with cattle. He now milks about fifty cows and keeps a large number of stock cattle.

Mr. Silacci's place is composed of two ranches. There is a considerable acreage of plow land, devoted to the raising of grain, hay, and beans. It is fine bean land; and usually sixty acres is planted to beans. Before buying here, Mr. Silacci traveled in the San Joaquin and Sacramento valleys, but selected this locality as the best. The ranch is well watered by creeks and springs. Water is piped to the residence, and to the dairy house and other farm buildings; and there is an ample supply for the irrigation of the alfalfa fields.

Peter Silacci was married in San Luis Obispo to Angelina Rusca, who was born in Giubiasco. Her father, Joseph Rusca, is a farmer in Los Osos. Mr. and Mrs. Silacci have six sons: Henry, Angelo, William, Peter, Jr., Albert, and Elmer.

Mr. Silacci is a member of the Cayucos Lodge, I. O. O. F. He has been school trustee in Someo school district. Politically, he indorses the principles of the Republican party.

**HENRY ANDREW GNESA.**—Among the younger generation of dairymen of the coast section of San Luis Obispo County, Henry A. Gnesa is operating a ranch of five hundred sixty acres on Morro creek. He was born in Green valley, near Cambria, June 18, 1890, a son of James and Sophia (Georgi) Gnesa, both natives of Switzerland, who came to this country and were married in California. James Gnesa has been engaged in the dairy business in this county over thirty years, and is now a resident of the Los Osos section. There were six children in the family, of whom Henry A. is the second eldest.

He was brought up in Green valley, and attended the Green valley and Excelsior schools. From a lad he helped on the farm, and at the age of nine began milking cows. When he was twenty-one years old, he commenced to work for wages, spending the first year with his father. He then leased the Morro creek ranch and began dairying for himself, and has since been thus engaged. His dairy cows now number about fifty, and he raises enough hay and grain for his stock. Water is piped from a spring to the dairy house. It has a fall of one hundred feet, furnishing power for the separator and for other purposes.

Mr. Gnesa is a member of Court Queen of the Sea, No. 29, F. of A. Politically, he is a Republican.

**MANUEL S. GULARTE.**—A resident of San Luis Obispo County since 1875, who has been engaged in stock-raising and farming, Manuel Gualarte was born in St. George, of the Azores group, in 1855. His father, Silva Gualarte, was a farmer; so Manuel from a lad worked on the home place and learned the stock-raising industry as it was followed in the Azores. Having heard good reports of wages awaiting anyone willing to work in the United States, he determined to try his fortune in the land of the Stars and Stripes. Accordingly, when eighteen years of age, he left his native land and kindred and embarked for the New World, arriving in Providence, R. I., where he was employed for two years. He then came to the Pacific Coast.

Arriving in San Luis Obispo County in 1875, Mr. Gularte obtained a place at herding sheep in the Paso Robles district, and later on the Carissa Plains and at Simmler. After some years of steady employment and saving his money, he decided to go into sheep-raising on his own account, and purchased a flock of about five hundred ewes, which he ran on the range in the vicinity of Simmler. The flock increased, and he was successful, becoming the owner of two flocks of sheep of about 2,000 each.

During this time he pre-empted and also homesteaded land. He had a ranch of three hundred twenty acres, which he improved, and operated with good success.

Fortune having smiled on him, Mr. Gularte sought a wife; and in the old Mission town of San Luis Obispo he was united in marriage with Marianna Azevedo, also a native of St. George. Of this union have been born seven children, as follows: Amelia, Mrs. Silva, who lives on a farm near her parents; Manuel, who assists his father on the ranch; Mary, Mrs. Silvera, of Sisquoc; and Marian, Rose, Anthony, and John, who are at home.

Mr. Gularte purchased a ranch of two hundred fifty acres four and a half miles north of San Luis Obispo, where he has a dairy; and he also owns a farm of one hundred sixty acres two miles south of his ranch. This he rents to others, giving his time and attention to farming the place on which he resides.

He is a member of the board of trustees of the Cuesta school district; and fraternally he is a member of the U. P. E. C. and I. D. E. S. He and his family are communicants of the Mission Catholic Church in San Luis Obispo. In national politics he is a Republican.

**AUGUST C. PIMENTEL.**—If ever you should wish to know about the Oso Flaco and the richness of its wonderful soil, and how men have done well there and even made fortunes when elsewhere the earth refused to yield so generously to their hard and patient toil, you would do wisely to call upon A. C. Pimentel, a successful rancher who lives four miles south of Guadalupe. Like so many other thrifty Portuguese who have been welcomed to California, Mr. Pimentel is a native of the island of Pico, among the balmy Azores, where he was born on March 12, 1883. When twenty years old he sailed from the beautiful port known as the Ponta del Garda, San Miguel, and after an eight-day voyage reached Boston on August 3, 1903. Soon he came west, and stopped at Fresno for three months, and there he began his first work in America, the herding of sheep.

Now it happened that Mr. Pimentel had some cousins in California, and a brother, Joe C. Pimentel (a sketch of whose life the reader will find elsewhere in this volume). Joe, coming up to Fresno, induced the newcomer to return with him to Guadalupe; and here in this vicinity he has been ever since. For a year he worked for his brother, and for another year he was in the service of the Union Sugar Co. He then removed to Oso Flaco, little dreaming that his advent in that vicinity meant more in the way of fortune to him than the mere learning of where he might find the richest soil. He worked by the day for a while for M. D. Martin, and then undertook to help Frank Nunez. During the year that he was with the latter, he married his only daughter, Mary Nunez, by whom he had one child, Elva. His young wife died thirteen months after their marriage. On setting up housekeeping for himself, he rented a ranch in Oso Flaco, where he continued to farm for four years. In

1913, he leased the Salisbury ranch, and the next year came to his present place. Although not so prosperous as when he was on the Oso Flaco, Mr. Pimentel, like the good farmer that he is, has continued to be successful; and in 1916, from a hundred ninety acres planted to beans, he gathered fifteen hundred eighteen sacks.

January 19, 1910, witnessed the second marriage of Mr. Pimentel, his bride being Miss Mary Silva, a native of the island of Pico, and the daughter of Jacinto and Isabel (Nunez) Silva. When only eleven years old, she came to America with her parents, both of whom are still living, at Harris Station, Santa Barbara county. Two children, Isabel and August, have blessed this happy union.

As an illustration of the devotion of many of those who have wandered far from home in order better to establish themselves in the New World, with its greater opportunities, the fact may be cited that when Mr. Pimentel, in 1912, received news that his mother was ill, he went all the way back to Pico island to see his parents. He was well rewarded in finding them both still living, and after somewhat over two months he returned home, arriving here the latter part of June.

Renting three hundred acres of the old Guadalupe ranch, and holding a three-year lease of the M. D. Tognazzini ranch, Mr. Pimentel employs sixteen work horses and numerous men, and is indeed a busy man; but both he and his good wife find time for social pleasures. He is a popular member of the I. D. E. S. and the U. P. E. C.; while Mrs. Pimentel belongs to the S. P. R. S. I. The family attend the Catholic Church.

**EDWIN P. DUGHI.**—A native of San Luis Obispo County, born on Villa creek, February 22, 1889, Edwin P. Dughi is a son of Paul Dughi, who was born at La Frasca, Switzerland, and who came to California about forty years ago and located on Villa creek, where he engaged in dairy farming. He was married in this county to Miss Mary Villa, who also was born on Villa creek, a sister of Frank Villa, whose family were pioneers of this county. Paul Dughi later retired to a home in San Luis Obispo, where he passed away in the late nineties. His widow is still living, and is a resident of Cayucos. Nine children were born to them, of whom Edwin P. is the fifth in order of birth.

Edwin P. Dughi was educated in the public schools of the county. He was bereft of his father when he was a lad of only nine years. From the age of twelve he has been practically self-supporting, working on dairies about Cayucos for wages, and then being for two and a half years apprenticed to learn the blacksmith's trade, under E. A. Bassi, and also James Pedrotta. He was looking for other business, however; so in 1910 he sought employment in the Cayucos branch of the California Central Creameries Co., beginning at the bottom and for two years gradually working his way up. In 1912 he went to Cambria as manager of the corporation's creamery there, and has held that position ever since.

In 1909 Mr. Dughi was married in San Luis Obispo to Miss Janet Tartaglia, who was born in the Adelaida district, a daughter of P. Tartaglia. She died on January 1, 1917, leaving, besides her husband, two little girls, Bernice and Veldora, to mourn her loss.

In politics, Mr. Dughi is a Republican. He is one of the well-known and public-spirited men of the coast section of the county, whose success has been of his own making and who merits the respect of all who know him.

**JOSEPH CURTI.**—Joseph Curti, a dairyman on Santa Rosa creek, has a ranch of three hundred twenty acres about five miles from Cambria. He was born in Premia, Novara, Piedmont, Italy, January 22, 1863, the son of Jacento and Christina (Martinetti) Curti, farmer folks in Italy. He was educated in the public schools of his native land, and learned farming while assisting his father on the farm. He served the period of his enlistment in the Italian army.

Mr. Curti had heard good reports from California, and decided to come to this state. Accordingly, on January 12, 1890, he arrived at Cayucos, with his wife and child. On January 14 he began working on a dairy ranch. After working for four years, he rented a dairy on shares from Nicola Storni, where he remained for eleven years. He had saved some money, and now decided to buy a ranch; so in 1905 he purchased his present place of three hundred twenty acres, and moved onto it. Since then he has run the place as a dairy ranch, and at present milks about twenty-five cows. It is a fine place, with plenty of springs. Water is piped to the residence and dairy house, and water power is used for operating the separator. In connection with the dairy, Mr. Curti devotes a considerable acreage to the growing of hay.

In 1886, before coming to this country, Joseph Curti was married to Miss Mary Cosso, who was born in Italy. They have three children. Ernest is now running the home farm; and Henry and Cora are at home.

In politics Mr. Curti is a Republican. He is industrious, and has many friends throughout his section of the county.

**ABRAHAM TOGNAZZINI.**—What a man may accomplish who is an able machinist, employs only competent and well-paid help, attends strictly to business, and gives that business his personal attention, is well illustrated in the story of the rise of Abraham Tognazzini, the popular ex-deputy constable and progressive proprietor of the Guadalupe Garage, a prosperous establishment opened in the winter of 1912-13. His father was Noe Tognazzini, a native of Someo, Canton Ticino, Switzerland, who went to Australia with his family in order to join his father, John Tognazzini, a gold miner in the province of Victoria. There he met with a fair degree of success as a miner, but made most of his money by taking up government land there and selling it, after having duly proved it up. Abraham's mother, now living at Guadalupe, was Marie Zanolli.

Leaving Australia, Mr. and Mrs. Noe Tognazzini came to California and took up their residence for a while at Point Sal, Santa Barbara county, then the old "chute landing," where ships were loaded with gypsum. They arrived in 1888, and the next year went to a ranch at Casmalia. The following year they were back again at the chute landing; and a year or two later they homesteaded at Mussel Rock, in due time proving up a hundred five acres. At Guadalupe, in 1909, Noe Tognazzini died, aged sixty years, the father of eighteen children. Five of these died young, but thirteen grew up. Elsewhere in this work will be found a sketch of Samuel M.; Elizabeth S. became the wife of R. B. Leeds, a glazier of Los Angeles; Moses P., formerly a blacksmith of Guadalupe, is a rancher in Arizona; Daniel is a well-known merchant at Guadalupe, and clerk of the board of trustees of the school district there; Mary M. is the wife of Peter Baranchi, a rancher near Orcutt; Josephine M. married F. C. Rusconi, whose sketch also appears in this work, he being a member of the firm of Tognazzini & Rusconi, proprietors of the

Golden Eagle Creamery at Guadalupe; Flora E. was wedded to Pacifico Chigolotti, foreman in the sugar factory at Betteravia; Romeo L. E. works in the California Garage at Santa Maria; Walter E. is employed in the mill at the Betteravia sugar works; Albert and A. G. are both of Guadalupe; Noe F. died unmarried; and Abraham is the subject of our sketch.

Born near Daly's Ford, in the province of Victoria, Australia, July 20, 1880, Abraham Tognazzini went to school in Australia, and later at Point Sal and Casmalia, Cal. At an early age he started to work out by the month on near-by ranches. He worked hard and steadily, and also saved his money; and when the automobile came to stay, Mr. Tognazzini, with admirable far-sightedness, was quick to perceive the great business opportunity for a garage at Guadalupe, and opened the first and by far the leading garage in the town. Since that time he has steadily prospered in his business and financial undertakings, and has now built up a dependable patronage. He is agent for the Case touring car, deals in all kinds of first-class auto supplies, and does expert auto repair work.

In 1908, Abraham Tognazzini was married, at San Luis Obispo, to Miss Olympia Georgia, a native of Switzerland, who came to California when three years of age, by whom he has had two children, Viola O. and Cecil Abraham. A happy family, they dwell together in a handsome residence which Mr. Tognazzini lately purchased.

**CELESTINO SIGNORELLI.**—The same touch of the romantic which characterizes the history of the Signorelli family in general, lights up the individual story of Celestino Signorelli, who left Europe following the death of his father and in consequence of the severe struggle imposed upon the widow and her children for very existence.

Born on February 2, 1880, in the province of Bergam, Italy, where he attended school and studied the Italian language, Celestino Signorelli, when seven years of age, went with his parents and brothers and sisters to Switzerland, where the two youngest of the children were born; and in canton Ticino he grew up, attending the local school and working to help the mother support the family. Two brothers and a sister had already gone to America and settled in California; and hearing from them frequently, he resolved, when about twenty-one years of age, to come to America also.

On October 14, 1890, therefore, he left Switzerland, after arranging that his mother and the three youngest children should follow him the next January; and on October 17 he sailed from Havre on the steamship "Savoy," landing in New York on October 26. He soon reached Guadalupe, Cal., and on November 2 commenced to milk cows for Romildo Tognazzini, for whom he worked thirteen months. He then entered the service of the sugar company, and afterwards bought a hay press and ran it.

On coming up to Oso Flaco, he entered into a contract with his brother-in-law, E. Morganti, to clear up and recover a hundred acres of land, now a part of the land he leases from the Union Sugar Co., agreeing to complete the work in five years. After fulfilling his agreement, he took up the hotel business, and managed the Exchange Hotel at Guadalupe, but retired from the business at the end of nineteen months, being afflicted with asthma. He then embarked in his present dairy business, for which he maintains over a hundred milch cows. He sells the cream to the Eagle Creamery at Guadalupe. His land is well adapted for the growing of alfalfa hay, and for this

dairy enterprise. He rents three hundred fifty acres, more or less, from the Union Sugar Co. at Oso Flaco, the company putting in wells and furnishing engines and pumps. He pays \$2,255 for rent, has already leased the land for six years, and his lease has five years more to run. He employs three men the year round, and in haying time takes on extra help. In 1916, he had over three hundred tons of barley hay for sale at the harvest, worth about fifteen dollars per ton. He is also raising cattle and hogs.

Some years ago Mr. Signorelli was married to Miss Delphina Tominelli, a native of canton Ticino, and a daughter of Joe Tominelli, who died when she was only three years old. Her mother, who managed to keep the family together, had four children: Adnesta, who lives in Switzerland; Jahonina, who is married and also dwells there; Jackimo, also a resident of the little republic; and Mrs. Signorelli, who is the only child living in America. A fine-looking, motherly woman, she came as a fiancée to Guadalupe, accompanied by Mr. Paulo Duchini, who had lived at Guadalupe, had returned to Switzerland, and after nine years had decided to come to California again. The bride-to-be was twenty-five years old when she came here. To this excellent woman, Mr. Signorelli attributes much of his success; and no wonder, for she does all the housework for the large ranch, cooks for three hired men the year round, looks after her children, and still finds time for her husband. Five children have blessed this marriage, of whom three still remain, the pride and hope of their parents: Hilda, Neva and Alma. An infant died at its birth; and little Alma, the third born, while playing near the railroad track at Guadalupe, when only seventeen months old, was run over and killed. The parents then named their fifth child Alma, also. Before coming to California, Mr. Signorelli was married in Switzerland to Julietta Galiardi, who died there a few years later, and by whom he has two children living: Martino and Camillo, both residing in their native place.

**JOSEPH F. SILVA.**—When the future historian of California comes to check off the true builders of this great commonwealth, he will not fail to enumerate Joseph F. Silva, the well-known pioneer who, starting with little or nothing of this world's means to his credit, amassed such a handsome fortune that, at his death, he was able to leave five of the most desirable ranches in this section to his faithful wife; nor will the historian pass over the enterprising sons of this early comer, Antone and John Silva, who, as partners together in extensive enterprises, have become important men of affairs, and who, in the enjoyment of leisure hours, have made themselves leaders in the social circles in which they move. Starting from the lower rungs of the ladder, and climbing high in the keen competition of the day, Joseph Silva left an example of thrift and business integrity, likely to be followed with success by both of the sons bearing his honored name.

Born in the Azores, where he married Annie A. Canadas, Joseph F. Silva came to California and settled in the Santa Maria valley when he was thirty years old. He had the foresight that made him among the first to discover the richness of the soil along the Oso Flaco, and led him to work with all his energy to acquire what he could of the best acreage when it might still be had for a moderate price. Under the terms of a lease for fourteen acres, he bought two ranches in Santa Maria, the one of a hundred sixty-one acres and the other of a hundred twenty; while he also secured a hundred six acres at Guadalupe. A man of striking personality, widely



known as a public-spirited citizen with Republican political preferences, and full of active, fruitful years, Joseph Silva died in 1912 at the age of sixty-two.

Six children and their families enjoy this heritage with the widow: Joe and his wife, Mary (Costa), who reside on one of the ranches to the north of Santa Maria; Antone and Mary (Silva), who have one child, Edwin; Frank, who married Mary Ermona, and resides with her on one of the ranches two miles east of Santa Maria; John and Mary, who are at home; and Marie, who married Matt. Medosa, and resides near Guadalupe.

On the home ranch, on December 15, 1888, Antone Silva was born; and in that vicinity he attended the public school. At only twelve years of age, he commenced driving his father's teams, and soon was handling the plow. Today he farms in partnership with his brother John—an excellent partner by the way—tilling some four hundred acres. From the mother they rent a hundred fourteen acres, and from Peter Pezzoni they lease over two hundred fifty more. Such bounteous harvests reward their expert management of these ranches that in 1916 they gathered two thousand four hundred sacks of beans, and large quantities of beets, hay and potatoes in addition. The Silva brothers have demonstrated their ability as agriculturists and successful business men. They were trained by their father, from boys, in the best methods of cultivating the soil, as well as in the selection of the crops best suited for this section. Evidence of their prosperity is seen in their splendid, well-kept buildings, fields and fences and in their rapidly moving automobiles, by which they are able to keep in close touch with their various ranches.

**ANTONE FELICIANO.**—Had anyone, on meeting Antone Feliciano, the well-known farmer and capitalist, about the middle of the sixties, when he first landed in San Francisco, prophesied that within half a century he would retire the possessor of a comfortable fortune, the prediction would have been perfectly safe; for like a considerable number of other California pioneers who eventually became well-to-do, Mr. Feliciano was a sailor, and through good seamanship made the port that proved the gateway to his prosperity. Born in the balmy Azores, on the sea-girt island of Fijol, about 1850, he was the son of Joseph Feliciano, also a sailor, although the grandfather had been a farmer. His father, who died where he was born, in Fijol, sailed the ocean his entire life, and retired in his seventieth year. His mother, Mary Ethel, died in the Azores, somewhat older than her husband. It was natural enough, therefore, that the son should put to sea in his early teens; and since he shipped with an American vessel when he was only fifteen, it is not surprising that a year later he entered the then already famous Golden Gate.

From his first experiences in California, Mr. Feliciano fell in love with the state and decided to cast in his fortunes here; but having tasted the adventure and pleasures of the sea, he was loath to abandon them. He continued to work as a sailor in the coast trade, serving in particular on vessels plying between San Francisco and Monterey. The latter proved a harbor of good luck for him, for there, at the age of thirty, he was married to Miss Mary Netto, a native of Boston, who had come to California when she was a child.

The first settler on the Oso Flaco in San Luis Obispo County, Mr. Feliciano bought one hundred twenty acres, still operated by some of his

children, which his good and faithful wife and family managed until, in his forty fifth year, he quit the sea; and so successful were they by hard work on this and other fertile farms since acquired, each "flat as a pancake, and fat as grease"—particularly in the scientific cultivation of beans and grain, that after building, in 1916, a beautiful bungalow to be occupied by the family of one of his children, he was able to retire, in January, 1917, and move to Santa Maria, where, for ten thousand dollars, he bought the Porter home on South Broadway, acknowledged to be one of the finest residences in town.

Fifteen progressive and interesting children, two of whom have since died, were born to this worthy couple. The living are: Tony; Joe, who married Miss Myrtle Fesler, of Santa Maria, by whom he has one child, Arthur; Mary, the wife of S. D. Martin, a rancher living east of the town; Frank, the husband of Vernie Fesler; Rose, who resides in Oakland, and is a milliner; and Belle, Gussie, Ethel, Jack, Peter, Henry, Freddie and Clarence, who are at home.

Now enjoying the well-earned fruits of a long and arduous life, Mr. Feliciano is numbered among the substantial citizens of Santa Maria, one whose experience in practical affairs is well worth consulting, and whose word is as good as his bond.

**LOUIS AND LOVIA SIGNORELLI.**—There may be many other pioneers from over the sea who, both before and since coming to California, have been trained in the school of hard knocks; but few, if any, have profited more than Louis Signorelli through the lessons so painfully learned, and none more deserves the prosperity he and his good wife now enjoy. The father, Bortel Signorelli, a native of Italy, was a laborer, who busied himself particularly with the cutting of wood and the burning of charcoal, and who also gave of his time for military service in Switzerland. He no doubt had a very hard time of it, trying to make a living for his wife and large family of children, and perhaps it is not surprising that he was induced to go to Africa to work in a coal mine. There, in Algiers, he was taken with a fever and died, quite alone, in his sixty-third year.

The privations of the mother and children under the conditions can well be imagined. The older boys and girls, just as soon as they were old enough to set out for themselves, sought to better their condition by sailing for the New World. Four of them already had reached California, settling near Guadalupe, before the mother—doubtless one of the most self-sacrificing, as well as one of the noblest, not to say ablest, of women in so rearing her family—and the youngest three children, ten years after her husband had died, arrived in the land of promise. Splendidly, however, have these heroic efforts of the mother have been rewarded; for all seven of the children have become prosperous, and are now highly respected citizens of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. They are Frank, the rancher who resides south of Orcutt; Rosa, the widow of E. Morganti, who died in 1915, after a long residence at San Luis Obispo; Amelio, a laborer at Guadalupe; Celestino, the dairyman of Oso Flaco, a sketch of whose life is elsewhere given; Louis, the subject of this review; Alfred Isadore, whose life story appears on another page; and Irma, the wife of A. Tomasini, the dairyman at Los Alamos.

Born in 1882, in Bergam, Italy, Louis Signorelli came to Switzerland with his parents when a child, and migrated to California in 1903. After his arrival, he worked by the month for *lithography*—*lithography*. Three years

he rented his present place from the Union Sugar Co., agreeing to pay that concern one-fifth of his receipts for the use of the land. Expending some \$18.50 a day for Japanese labor, and \$1.44 for seed, \$3.50 for plowing, 50 cents for harrowing and \$3.50 for water for irrigation, or a total of about \$27.44 a day, he is still able, with the sugar-beets yielding him \$5.50 or \$6, or over, per ton, to clear up a handsome profit. He has sixteen work horses, and in 1917 will plant a hundred acres to beans and three hundred fifty acres to beets. Leasing four hundred fifty acres from the Union Sugar Co., he pledges to put out at least three hundred fifty acres to the product they desire; and under normal conditions he can expect twelve tons of beets to the acre.

The year 1912 witnessed the marriage of Louis Signorelli to Miss Lovia Tomasini, a native of Someo, canton Ticino, Switzerland, to whom he attributes much of his present high degree of success. She is a typically good-natured Swiss woman, and a credit to American motherhood and womanhood, as well as to that of her native country. She enjoys, like her husband, the great blessing of health; and being optimistic by nature, industrious and ambitious, she has proven an excellent helpmate to him. Two children are their particular joy: Waldo Vencento, and Emory Louis. Several of Mrs. Signorelli's brothers still survive. Ardeno Tomasini resides on a dairy ranch near Los Alamos; Arminio Tomasini has a dairy at San Luis Obispo; Bozellio Tomasini lives in Nevada; and there are a brother and three sisters in Switzerland. Her parents are Vencento and Constanca (Caporgno) Tomasini. The father has spent his life as an educator, and both parents are living in Someo.

**RINALDO BASSI.**—A resident of San Luis Obispo County since 1896, Rinaldo Bassi is engaged in the feed and fuel business in San Luis Obispo. He was born in Vallé Maggia, canton Ticino, Switzerland, April 16, 1880. His father, Cesare Bassi, was an educator. He taught school all of his life, and died in Switzerland. The mother, Candida Padavani, now resides in Santa Margarita. Of their thirteen children, Rinaldo is the eighth in order of birth.

Rinaldo Bassi was brought up in his native town, Cerentino, and was educated in the public schools under his father till the age of fourteen, when his father died. He remained at home until past fifteen years of age, when, in 1896, he came to California, whither several brothers had previously emigrated. He came to Paso Robles and for several years was employed at farming and dairying, and also at clearing land and cutting wood. In 1908 he located in San Luis Obispo and began a feed and fuel business, in which he has continued since. His place is at 1165 Monterey street. He bought the site and built up the establishment from the foundation; and here he engages in a wholesale and retail feed, coal and wood business, delivering with teams and by truck.

In San Luis Obispo, Rinaldo Bassi was married to Mathilda Devaux, a lady of French descent, who was born in canton Ticino, and was raised and educated there. They have three children: Victoria Bessie, Adelina, and Rinaldo, Jr.

Mr. Bassi is a member of the Swiss Mutual Benevolent Association, of the I. D. E. S. Society, and of the San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce. Politically, he is a Republican.

**ALESSIO BASSI.**—Born in St. Antonino, canton Ticino, Switzerland, February 14, 1862, Alessio Bassi came to California in 1879, and to San Luis Obispo County in 1882. His father, Andrea Bassi, was a dairyman; and Alessio was raised on the home farm, pursuing his studies at the public school till fourteen years of age. After that he worked for his uncle until he reached the age of seventeen years, when he decided to come to California. Two of his brothers had located at Fort Ross; so, after his arrival, in 1879, Alessio went to Fort Ross, where he found employment on a dairy. Later he was in the employ of N. Sartori, at Duncan's Mill. In 1882 he came to Cayucos. He worked on dairy ranches on Morro creek till 1885, when he started business on his own account on little Morro creek, running a dairy ranch of five hundred acres, with a herd of about fifty cows. For a while he did well; but low prices of butter and hogs caused the loss of all he had made, and he again went to work for wages, to get another start.

Mr. Bassi then homesteaded eighty acres on San Bernardo creek and ran a small dairy, increasing his acreage by renting land, and adding to his herd until he had a dairy of fifty-eight cows. He then sold out, and in 1908 leased his present place of seven hundred seventy acres in the Harmony district, bought stock and implements, and now milks about one hundred cows, separating the cream with a power separator. He owns a ranch of eighty-seven acres in Laguna valley, two and one-half miles from San Luis Obispo; and this he leases out.

Alessio Bassi was married in San Luis Obispo to Miss Ermina Georgia, also a native of Ticino, by whom he has six children: Ida, Mrs. Guerra of San Luis Obispo; Lillie, Mrs. Filippini of Los Osos valley; Dora, Mrs. Madonna of Villa Creek; and Louis, Alessio, and Virginia, who live at home.

Mr. Bassi is a stockholder in the Harmony Creamery Association. In politics, he is a Republican.

**JOHN SCARONI.**—Born in Gordola, canton Ticino, Switzerland, in April, 1851, the son of Antone and Elizabetha (Cordiga) Scaroni, farmer folks in the Alps region, John Scaroni was the third of the four children that grew up in his parents' family. He was brought up in Switzerland, where he attended the public schools.

In 1873, when twenty-two years of age, Mr. Scaroni decided to try his fortune in the New World, and started for California in January of that year. A brother, Pio Scaroni, had come to Santa Cruz eighteen months before; so he joined his brother there, arriving in February, 1873, with only five dollars left in his pocket. He got a job with a dairy, and worked there for five years. Then, in partnership with another man, he rented the same place and ran it three years.

In January, 1882, Mr. Scaroni came to Cayucos, San Luis Obispo County. Here he worked out for three years, and then rented a dairy two and a half miles from Cayucos. After operating this dairy for five years with success, he bought the place, which contained three hundred twenty-five acres, and ran a dairy of fifty cows. In those days he panned the milk, and skimmed it by hand, and had a boiler for scalding the pans. The churning was done by horse power, and the butter was shipped away. He continued here for about fifteen years, and then leased the place as a dairy, though he still owns it. In 1902 he bought his present place of two hundred acres near Cayucos creek, where he carries on a dairying business, maintaining a herd of from thirty to thirty-five cows. He uses an automatic separator and ships his cream to the

markets. He raises grain and hay for his stock, and also has a small piece of alfalfa. He has improved the place with suitable farm buildings, to which water is piped from a spring half a mile away.

On March 2, 1894, John Scaroni was married in San Luis Obispo to Miss Natalina De Giorgi, who was born in canton Ticino, and who came to California, November 26, 1893. She is the daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Cortazzi) De Giorgi. The father is dead; the mother is living at seventy-two years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Scaroni have three children, Mamie, Richard, and Laura, who are all at home assisting their parents.

Mr. Scaroni was made a citizen soon after coming to San Luis Obispo County. Politically, he is a Republican; fraternally, he is a member of Cayucos Lodge, I. O. O. F.

**FRANK M. FRATIS.**—A successful bean grower who leases and cultivates, in a first-class manner, one hundred five acres of the Pizzoni ranch on the Oso Flaco, in San Luis Obispo County, Frank M. Fratis was born on Flores Island, in the Azores group, on January 8, 1862. He is a son of Martinez and Annie Fratis, lifelong farmers on Flores Island, both now deceased. As a boy he was reared on a farm, and when nearly twenty, in 1881, left the home of his parents, bound for the United States, and came direct to California, where so many of his countrymen had settled before him.

He worked for wages in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties until he had accumulated some money, and in April, 1904, returned to his native land, where he remained almost eighteen months. While there, in 1906, he was married to Maria Dureys, a native of that island. They came to America; and, once more in California, he has been farming successfully on his present place, where, in 1916, he raised 1,403 sacks of beans. Mr. Fratis does nearly all his own work. He has a good bank account; and he and his wife are frugal in their tastes and co-operate with each other in the care of the ranch. They have three children, Mary, Annie and Angeline.

The parents of Mr. Fratis had fourteen children; but only seven reached maturity. Manuel died in San Luis Obispo County; Mary became the wife of Manuel Olivera and died in Santa Maria, leaving four children; Filomina died in Portugal; Mrs. Hannah Brass lives in Oakland; Mrs. Mariana Olivera has two daughters employed by the telephone company in Santa Maria, where she resides; and there are two sons, Joe, of Santa Cruz, and Frank, of this review.

**UGO BASSI.**—The genial and obliging proprietor of the Santa Margarita Vegetable Gardens, located one mile north of the town, Ugo Bassi is a native of Switzerland, where he was born on November 25, 1869, in Calentino, in the canton of Ticino. His father was a graduate of the university, and an educator of more than ordinary prominence. He died in 1895, at about the age of fifty-eight.

Ugo Bassi was the second oldest in a family of twelve children. He was educated in the public schools until he was fourteen, and then was set to learn the trade of a bricklayer, which he later followed in Switzerland and in Holland. As the fame of California had traveled to that far country, its advantages had been carefully considered by Mr. Bassi; and being an energetic and ambitious young man, he concluded that he would try his fortunes in the Golden State, and accordingly sailed for America. He embarked at Havre on November 16, 1888, on the steamer "Grand Brittan," bound for New York. From New York he crossed the continent by rail to

San Francisco; and from there came first to Santa Barbara, where he worked for two months. He then went to Port Harford; but finding nothing to do at his trade, he went to work chopping wood at Edna, on a contract to furnish wood to the Pacific Coast Railway Company. He entered into partnership with his brother, Angiolino Bassi, and they were engaged thus for about six years. The brothers moved to Paso Robles and began clearing land (with a view to setting it out later to fruit) and cutting wood, which was shipped to fill their contracts. They have the distinction of sending out the first car load from Paso Robles. In the summer season they engaged in baling hay. For about fifteen years they continued business in this way, when they moved to Santa Margarita.

After a few more years in the wood business, Mr. Bassi began raising vegetables. For this purpose he leased the old China Gardens from the Santa Margarita ranch. He has about fifty acres of gardens, where he raises vegetables of all kinds in their season. There is no sort of vegetable used here that he does not raise. He puts up dill pickles, chow-chow, and ketchup, and cans fruits and vegetables, all of which find a ready sale. He runs vegetable wagons in Santa Margarita, Creston and Atascadero, and plans to put on a motor truck in the spring of 1917. To irrigate his gardens, Mr. Bassi constructed a dam on the creek, dug ditches for irrigation, and further improved the methods of gardening.

Mr. Bassi's mother makes her home with him most of the time. He is an enterprising, progressive man, always ready to help any project that has for its aim the upbuilding of the community. He is kind-hearted and hospitable, and seems always ready to help those who have been less fortunate.

**MANUEL F. MADRUGA.**—Among the men who, by close application and honest and straightforward business methods, have risen to a high standing in the community, and are stanch supporters of everything for the good of the home and the school, is Manuel F. Madruga, owner of one hundred acres near Guadalupe. He came from his home in the Island of Pico, where he was born on March 21, 1872, a poor boy and unable to speak English. His father, Philip Jose Madruga, is still living in his native island, at the ripe age of seventy-six years, and takes an active interest in affairs where his little farm is located. His wife, who was in maidenhood Maria Cardoza, died on the farm in 1886. Their six children are: Philipa, who lives in the island of Flores; Jose, who lived in California for a time, and then went back to Pico island in 1911, married, and still lives there; Maria, who resides with her father; Manuel F. and Maria, twins, the latter living in the Azores; and Philipi Jose, a Roman Catholic priest in Flores.

At the age of seventeen, in 1889, Manuel F. Madruga came to California to join his brother Jose at Guadalupe, and for some years worked on various ranches in this section of the county. In 1890 he was united in marriage with Miss Balvina Gualarte, who was born in San Luis Obispo, a daughter of Joseph S. and Laura Rosa (Veirea) Gualarte, well-known residents of that county, but now living near Santa Maria. The father came to California as early as 1872, locating near San Luis Obispo, where he was a pioneer rancher and hotel man. The mother came to this county about 1870, and was among the first settlers of Oso Flaco. Mrs. Madruga was reared in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties, and attended the public schools of the Santa Maria valley.

After his marriage, Mr. Madruga decided to make a start for himself. He leased land and farmed with success, saving his money, and then purchased his present ranch. Later he erected on the property his handsome and modern residence, the finest on the Oso Flaco. Mr. Madruga spends his time and energies in farming, making a specialty of beans, sugar beets, onions and potatoes. He keeps six work horses busy all the time, and has harvested some exceedingly large crops, which have netted him handsome returns.

Mr. and Mrs. Madruga have had seven children, two of whom died in infancy. Those living are Manuel P., May E., Laura P., Frances A. and Philip Jose. Mr. Madruga has found time to take an interest in the affairs of his community. He is a believer in the maintaining of good schools, and in everything else that helps the whole community to better its condition. He has served as clerk of the board of Oso Flaco district the past six years. He is a member of the U. P. E. C., I. D. E. S., and A. O. U. D. lodges in Guadalupe; is a Republican in politics; and, with his family, attends the Catholic Church.

**STEPHEN V. CAMPODONICO.**—A son of the pioneer merchant in Guadalupe, S. V. Campodonico is making good, and is recognized as a conservative, as well as a thorough man of business. He has been engaged as a clerk in his father's store since he was a lad of thirteen, and for several years past has been the buyer, as well as the main working spirit of the establishment. He stands for progress, and is one of the owners of the New Commercial Hotel and manager of the Crescent Theater.

A native of the state, he was born in San Francisco, March 20, 1882, and was brought by his parents to Guadalupe when a child. He attended the public school until 1895, when, after reaching the eighth grade, he was taken out of school and set to work in the store to learn the practical part of merchandising. Beginning at the very bottom, he worked his way through the various departments, learning every detail in each, until he became competent to take charge of the entire concern and thus relieve his father of the burden. The store carries a stock of about \$35,000 valuation, consisting of a general stock of all kinds of merchandise; and the business is carried on with good results.

In San Luis Obispo, S. V. Campodonico was united in marriage with Miss Flora D. Baumgartner, a native of Kansas, but residing in Nipomo at the time of her marriage. Two children have blessed this union, Florence Thelma and Stephen William. Mr. Campodonico and family occupied a fine home in Guadalupe until it was destroyed by fire, on November 5, 1916, probably to cover a robbery.

Mr. Campodonico is a member of the firm of Campodonico Bros., who erected the new Commercial Hotel building, seventy-five by one hundred feet, completed at a cost of \$12,500, which includes the Crescent Theater, of which our subject is the manager. For twelve years he has been a notary public, is the resident agent for the California Fire Insurance Co., and is keenly alive to all the possibilities in this part of the county. He is popular with all classes, decidedly progressive, and a "booster" for both town and county. Mr. Campodonico is Past Grand of Laguna Lodge No. 224, I. O. O. F. He is a member of the board of trustees of Guadalupe school district, serving his second term.

**ALFRED ISADORE SIGNORELLI.**—A successful rancher in the Oso Flaco, and one who, hand over hand and entirely through his own untiring industry, has climbed each rough-hewn round of the ladder of privation and toil, Alfred Isadore Signorelli was born in Someo, canton Ticino, Switzerland, August 4, 1888, the son of Bertel and Esther Signorelli, Italians who had migrated to the little republic. The sixth in a family of seven children, and the youngest of five brothers, Alfred Signorelli, on coming here, worked out for a year on various farms; and then, although only fifteen years old, in order to provide a home for his mother, younger sister and himself, he pluckily rented the Morganti ranch. This ranch he still manages, now leasing it from the Union Sugar Co. In the home he thus established, his mother, always the object of particular affection and interest, continued to live until her death, in 1915, at the age of sixty-two years. The father had died years before at the age of sixty-three.

On August 1, 1914, Alfred Isadore Signorelli was married to Miss Mary Belloni, who was born near Guadalupe, the popular young daughter of John and Mary Belloni, well-known residents of Guadalupe, now retired. By her he has had one promising child, Irma Gladys.

Equipped with a full complement of work horses and machinery, including a 1916 model Holt caterpillar for plowing (of thirteen horse-power for the draw-bar and thirty horse-power in the belt), Mr. Signorelli operates to good advantage some two hundred fifty acres, giving a hundred acres to beets, and one hundred fifty to beans, grain and hay. His conservatism is shown by the fact that he still rents the ranch he began with; but his conservatism is of the progressive type. Mr. Signorelli is a model farmer, whose methods are being imitated by his well-wishing competitors.

Strong of body and active of intellect, large-hearted and making and keeping many friends, Alfred Signorelli, together with his excellent wife, is prominent in social affairs, and particularly so in the circles of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Guadalupe.

**FRANK EGEDIO RIGHETTI.**—A prosperous rancher and one of the trustees of the Oso Flaco school district, who is highly respected for his manly qualities, Frank E. Righetti was born May 15, 1880, in Someo, canton Ticino, Switzerland. His father, Joseph Righetti, was a farmer and owned a little place in Someo, where he married Dolorata Tomasini. They had six children: Victor, who lived in Oso Flaco about twenty years, though not continuously, and is now married and resides in Someo; Leno, who lives in Montesano, Wash.; Robert, who died in San Luis Obispo, leaving a widow and two children; Frank Egedio, the subject of this review; and Assunta and Lisa, who reside in San Luis Obispo.

Frank Egedio Righetti grew up in Someo, and attended school until he was fourteen, being educated in the Italian language. He then continued assisting his father until he was seventeen years of age. Having three brothers in California, he decided to join them, for their letters were filled with glowing accounts of this country. In 1897, therefore, he sailed from Havre on the "La Touraine," and arrived in New York early in December; but he did not tarry long in the East, for his finances would not permit of unnecessary expenses. He arrived in California a few days before Christmas, and secured a job at once as a milker for John Scaroni. He attended school for a few months at Willow Creek in order to learn to



read and speak English. For three years he was employed by Peter Righetti at Morro, and then came to Guadalupe and worked for Peter Tognazzini four years on the Oso Flaco. He liked California from the start, and saved his money; and with a partner, A. Bondietti, he took a four-year lease on some land on the Oso Flaco, engaging in dairying. After this, he began farming for himself.

In the meantime, in September, 1907, Mr. Righetti was united in marriage with Miss Elvezia Bondietti, a native of San Luis Obispo County and a daughter of A. Bondietti, who is mentioned elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Righetti have four children: Rena, William, Dora and Hazel.

In 1909, they moved to the place where they now live, which Mr. Bondietti owns, consisting of eighty acres. Besides this, Mr. Righetti rents one hundred fifty acres from the sugar company. He uses a Holt tractor of 13-30 horse power, and other modern machinery and implements. He was naturalized on October 3, 1910. In politics he is a Republican. He is serving on the school board of Oso Flaco district. Fraternally he is prominent, being a member of the Masons, Guadalupe Lodge, No. 337, F. & A. M.; a Past Grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows; and a member of the San Luis Obispo Lodge, No. 322, B. P. O. Elks.

**FRANK SIGNORELLI.**—An example, well worthy of study by the American youth, because of the living demonstration of what a poor lad may do by devotion to parents and to some definite ideals, is Frank Signorelli, the farmer and stockman on the state highway, half-way between Orcutt and Los Alamos. Frank Signorelli was the first of his family to come to America. His father, Bortel Signorelli, an Italian, was a poor man, but a very honest charcoal-burner and day-laborer, who, warmly devoted to his wife and children, left them in Switzerland, whither he had migrated, in order to earn, as he supposed, a better living in a coal mine in Africa; but prostrated there by a fever, he suffered and died. With grim determination, the equally devoted mother kept her children together until, one by one, they were all able to remove to California, where they have certainly become a credit to the communities in which they reside; and in the soil of the Golden State, her own sacred ashes now rest. Among her children, besides the subject of this sketch, are Louis, the Oso Flaco rancher, and Celestino, the dairyman of the same place, an account of whose interesting lives is set forth in this work. Another is Amelio, a laborer, unmarried, at Guadalupe. Rosa, the widow of E. Morganti, who resides at San Luis Obispo, and Irma, the wife of A. Tomasini, the Los Alamos dairyman, are the two daughters in the family.

Born in Italy, on November 8, 1871, Frank Signorelli attended school there, and when twelve years of age removed with his parents, brothers and sisters to Switzerland, where he grew up at Locarno, in canton Ticino. From the time he entered the free republic, however, only the hardest kind of hard work was his lot. He cut timber and chopped wood for a living in the rocky forests, and later went to Algiers, Africa, where he toiled as water-boy, carrying pails of water to workmen who were engaged in building the railroad.

In 1891, when but twenty years of age, he sailed for California, and for a year chopped wood at Santa Rosa, Sonoma county. The next twelve months were spent at milking cows on a ranch not far from the same place. The third year, he rented a small tract of eighty-two acres, where he raised

grapes, prunes and hay; and from that time he farmed independently until, about five years later, he came down to Oso Flaco and began to work for his brother-in-law, E. Morganti, who then ran a big farm and dairy and devoted three hundred acres to farming, while reserving eight hundred acres for pasture; and with him he continued for five years. He learned all about milking and the care of cows, and became an expert butter and cheese maker.

Nine years ago he entered into a partnership with Milo D. Tognazzini, of San Luis Obispo, with whom he operates the Cap Harris ranch of four hundred acres. A hundred fifty acres are planted to beans; and the rest of the land is devoted to hay and live stock. He also looks after one hundred seventy-three head of Tognazzini's Holstein heifers and steers, from two to three years old. He employs three men and six or seven times as many work horses. The conditions of the bargain are interesting: Mr. Tognazzini pays the rent and furnishes the seed, and gets one-half of the profits; while Mr. Signorelli does all the work, and takes the other half of the profits.

Mr. Signorelli also undertakes some work for the county government, repairing the Casmalia grade to Lompoc, and keeping the highway in excellent condition. To this he devotes from three to four days a week, and employs from two to six horses, performing his labor under the experienced direction of E. Righetti, the district road master.

A romantic result of Frank Signorelli's association with Santa Rosa was his marriage there to Miss Lena Capitani, a native of Locarno, Switzerland, and the daughter of Frank and Eugenia (Pacallia) Capitani, who brought their family to Sonoma county. Mrs. Signorelli was educated in the public schools of Santa Rosa. Their life together has been unusually happy; and their home is made bright by three children: Irene, Esther, and Ellis.

From boyhood used to the hardest kind of manual labor, and inclined, therefore, to laugh at fatigue, Frank Signorelli still swings his axe with vigor, or does whatever is necessary in the way of work, at the same time that he wisely cares for what he has already acquired. He is rapidly making money, as is attested by the fact that he owns two lots on the water front in San Francisco, where they are steadily increasing in value. A Republican in politics, he takes a keen interest in public affairs, and delights to do his full duty as a citizen.

**PIETRO SCOLARI.**—A fine representative of that class of indomitable Swiss-Americans who are making a real success in California is P. Scolari, the farmer and dairyman living six miles west of Los Alamos, who came here practically without means, and yet, through industry and frugality, and upright dealing, has prospered until, today, he could probably buy out, several times over, many who once were more well-to-do than he. Born in November, 1859, in the canton of Ticino, Switzerland, not far from Italy, he was the son of P. Scolari, now deceased, and of Mary Scolari, still living there, who was born in 1839.

At about twenty years old Pietro Scolari came to America, and reached the Golden Gate on the 12th of February, 1879. On arriving in San Francisco, he found that he had only five dollars left; but he borrowed another five dollars from a friend, and came on to Guadalupe. There he went to work immediately for J. Tognazzini at twenty dollars a month. For some eight years he continued to labor for wages; and then, in 1885, he went to Lompoc, and for a while rented land there before coming to his present place.

Since 1891 he has been a tenant farmer, tilling a part of the Careaga ranch, west of Los Alamos. There he now farms and operates nine hundred eighty-five acres, which he devotes to beans and hay, and to a dairy, for which he has a full complement of live stock, with from fifty to sixty milch-cows. Before this he leased about three thousand acres and had a dairy of about one hundred fifty cows and about two hundred head of other stock. In 1916, he bought fifty-five acres of excellent valley land adjoining the ranch land that he rents. He has thirty horses, and a complete outfit of agricultural machinery.

Attracted to his old home by a sweetheart, Mr. Scolari, in 1893, went back to Switzerland, and there married Assunta Cascioni, a native of his birthplace. By her he had six children, one of whom, Mary, Mrs. Rossini, died at the age of twenty-two. The five living children, who are as hard workers as Mr. and Mrs. Scolari themselves, and who contribute much to the successful management of the Scolari ranch, are Peter, Louis, Assunta, Josie, and Alfonso.

Mr. Scolari has been a friend of education and was the originator of the movement whereby a new schoolhouse is to be erected in his district.



